



Store cashpoint raid gang fled with £73,000

THIEVES who padlocked the gates to a police station before raiding a cash machine stole more than £73,000, police have revealed.

The WH Smith cashpoint in Cross Street, Oswestry, was targeted in the early hours of April 26.

Police Inspector Tracy Ryan said investigations have concluded and confirmed the gang made off with

£73,770. The revelation comes following the latest raid on a cash machine in Shropshire.

Detectives believe the gang involved may be responsible for a series of attacks on ATMs across the county this year.

In the early hours of Tuesday morning last week, thieves used an angle grinder to break into a cash

machine at a supermarket. They caused substantial damage after targeting the store in White Lion Meadow, Whitchurch.

Officers, who say it is not yet known how much was taken in the latest attack, are now working on the theory that the same gang is responsible.

In the Oswestry raid, thieves pad-

locked the gates at Oswestry Police Station to delay officers while they emptied the machine.

The padlocked gate was discovered at about 3am as officers left the station to carry out routine patrols of the area.

CCTV showed a vehicle pulling up outside the building in Park Street. The suspects then got out of the car

and padlocked the gates before driving off.

At the time it was linked to a similar incident in Ludlow which took place on the same night. Four men in a black car were seen leaving a shop premises in New Road at about 1am.

Police said the doors were forced open, an office was raided and the cash machine was attacked.

POLICE

Arrests made in battle to disrupt criminal gangs

ARRESTS have been made to disrupt gangs who travel into Mid Wales to sell drugs.

Warrants have been carried out in Montgomery, Newtown and other areas of Powys. They are part of Operation Regent, the title given to a long and complex investigation targeting "County Lines" groups who travel to Powys from elsewhere in the UK and set up business with local drug dealers to sell heroin and crack cocaine.

Powys Chief Inspector Matt Scrase is leading the operation and he said: "We know there is a problem with organised crime groups travelling to our communities to supply Class A drugs."

"Our action to disrupt supply should clearly demonstrate to travelling criminals that this will not be tolerated in Powys. It's a complex scenario as some of our suspects are potentially also victims. They may be dependent on drugs, they may be vulnerable, and therefore a key part of our strategy to combat the problem we are facing is to work closely in partnership to offer support and advice to those people to help them turn their lives around, if they are willing to take the help on offer."

ACCIDENT

Driver crashes into town centre railings

A CAR crashed into railings in Oswestry town centre – just an hour after another car was engulfed in flames.

Both incidents happened in the early hours of Sunday. The crash happened in Oswald Road at 2.20am. Firefighters made the vehicle safe. There were not believed to have been any serious injuries.

The accident happened an hour after firefighters had been called out to deal with a vehicle on fire in Whittington Road in the town. The car was totally destroyed and there were no injuries.

INSIDE

Poignant tribute to war fallen



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GRIDLOCK SPARKS FRESH ROAD PLEA

Report by Jonny Drury

FRESH calls for road improvements have been made after an overturned milk lorry brought routes north of Oswestry to a standstill on Monday.

Huge rush hour traffic jams quickly built up after the lorry overturned on the A5 Chirk bypass spilling milk across the carriageway.

The driver escaped serious injury when his vehicle rolled over at 6am. The bypass was shut between the Gledrid and Halton roundabouts with traffic diverted through Chirk.

Cars queued back towards Oswestry and Wrexham. Traffic through Chirk was at gridlock. The road was re-opened at 8.30am. It isn't the first time a closure on the trunk route has caused such chaos and campaigners have now said it reinforces the need for a dual carriage-way.

Chirk county councillor Terry Evans said: "It was chaos again and it shows that a simple road closure can cause such chaos."

"The traffic was bumper to bumper in Chirk and it is the residents in the town and surrounding areas who have to deal with the consequences."

"We believe the dualling of the A5 will help and we have called for others things such as reduced speed limits and traffic calming around the Gledrid."

Owen Paterson, North Shropshire MP, urged people to write to both Midlands Connect and the Welsh Government to call for road improvements.

He said: "The disruption, the danger and misery for drivers disproportionately fall on local people but the economic damage such hold-ups cause affect the whole region."

Community kitchen serves up tasty treats



Brothers Ben and Tom Wilson serve up the treats at OsNosh, a new community kitchen at Holy Trinity Church in Oswestry. Photo: Jamie Ricketts.

ITALIAN bean casserole and a plum dessert were on the menu when OsNosh opened the doors on Oswestry's first community kitchen.

The project has been set up to provide free community meals once a week for anyone who is hungry, struggling or simply in need of company – with food that otherwise would be wasted.

Based at Holy Trinity Church, OsNosh has been set up by brothers Tom and Ben Wilson in partnership with the Chalk community

interest company. The community kitchen opened with chef Ben using a glut of marrows and plums from local gardeners as the basis for his vegetarian menu. Other ingredients included herbs from a farm in Babbinswood, Whittington, and bread from local supermarkets.

Now working at vegan restaurant, the Fat Rabbit, Ben's career has included catering on film sets.

"I am used to cooking for large numbers,"

he said. While in university Tom worked with FoodCycle in Sheffield, a community organisation to make meals for those that are at risk of food poverty or social isolation using surplus food from local shops and larger food stores. He was inspired by FoodCycle and other community kitchens opening up across the UK to start a similar project of his own in Oswestry.

The kitchen will open each Thursday from noon.

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Charity status boost for amateur swimming club

Report by Mat Growcott

AN amateur swimming club is celebrating after achieving charity status.

The Oswestry Otters said the move will help them to attract sponsorship and work more closely with businesses in the area.

Jo Jones, from the club, said: "We have seen huge success in the recent Shropshire county meet with many swimmers medalling and - qualifying to compete at regional level."

She added: "The club has also been represented at the British National Championships and British Para-Swimming Championships."

"Swimming is a high commitment sport, with our members training five sessions a week."

"Our volunteers are amazingly dedicated, but it is a big challenge for us to keep on top of all the aspects involved in running a successful club."

"We hope that now we've been able to establish ourselves as a charity, thanks to Aaron & Partners, we'll be able to attract sponsorship from businesses which will help us to continue working with our head coach."

"We'll also be able to secure more swimming time at larger pools without having to raise the fees for our members, therefore keeping it accessible for as many people as possible."

The club was helped through the lengthy process by Shrewsbury-based law firm Aaron and Partners, who did the work free of charge.

Stuart Haynes, head of the Shrewsbury office, said the company was happy to help the swimming club in the process to get charity status.

He said: "As a firm we're committed to supporting the communities in which we live and work and this was a wonderful opportunity to do just that."

"The team of dedicated volunteers at Oswestry Otters do fantastic work, helping young people stay fit whilst making friends, and we were delighted to be able to help them build for a brighter future."

Saints ensure youngsters have summer fun



Jacob Williams from The New Saints helps Gobowen youngsters with their summer camp activities

THE New Saints Football Club have been holding more holiday activity camps in and around Oswestry during the summer break.

Children went back to school this week but the Welsh Premier League champions' foundation made sure youngsters were kept busy during the summer.

The latest holiday camp was held at Gobowen Playing Fields and others were held at Weston Rhyn, St Martins, Cae Glas Park and Gatacre Playing Fields.

The club works in partnership with Three Parishes Big Local and Oswestry Town Council, and has also been funded by STAR Housing, Par5, Mere and Mosses and Connexus Housing to provide some additional activities in Ellesmere.

Level 2 qualified coaches provide multiple activities for all ages and abilities. They hold the relevant health and safety and first aid qualifications. A range of activities were enjoyed by all and events include archery, football, tennis, space hopper races and

much more. Later this year the foundation is set to celebrate its fifth birthday.

Gill Jones, who runs the foundation, is delighted with the work and progress that has been made by the foundation over the years.

She said: "We have so many activities and events on, and it is giving something to the community."

"We are in eight different locations every week, have holiday camps and a host of other things."

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Farmer, 74, suffered head injury in accident

A FARMER who suffered a head injury while helping to vaccinate cattle died as a result of an accident, an inquest found.

Frederick John Francis, 74, was hurt during the incident at Cottage Farm in Marton near Welshpool on May 15.

But the hearing was told it was unclear if he "slipped", "tripped" or was struck by an animal causing him to fall to the ground.

He died four days later at Royal Stoke University Hospital after being airlifted.

Mr Francis's cause of death was given as traumatic brain injury.

The hearing was told that self-employed Mr Francis and two workers were vaccinating a number of 12-month-old Friesians one at a time in a cattle shed when he was spotted lying on the ground about 10ft away from the men, who did not see what happened to him.

A report by the Health & Safety Executive that was read out at the hearing held in Shrewsbury stated that the farmer was using his own gate system to manage the cattle as they moved from the shed to outdoors instead of the recommended "race and crush" equipment.

The hearing was told the inspector found a race and crush at the site, but it was not used on the day of the incident.

Car rolls onto its side in road crash

A DRIVER suffered minor injuries when a car turned on its side in a crash near Oswestry on Monday.

Emergency services were called to the crash on Gobowen Road at around 11.30am.

West Mercia Police were called to the scene along with West Midlands Ambulance Service who dealt with a casualty who suffered minor injuries.

Man was caught as he was delivering drugs

Report by Jonny Drury

A FORMER drug addict was caught delivering £4,000 worth of cannabis to pay off old drug debts.

Danny Tandy, 53, of Swinburn Place, Rotherham, was stopped on the A5 at Nesscliffe in January last year, with up to £4,000 worth of the Class B drug in a van.

Phone and bank records showed he had made numerous visits to an address in Blenheim Close, Oswestry.

He admitted the charge of supplying cannabis, and was given eight months in prison, suspended for 18 months by Judge Anthony Lowe at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Wednesday last week.

He was also ordered to complete 180 hours of unpaid work.

Phillip Beardwell, prosecuting, told the court how police had been given intelligence that a drugs drop was taking place at an address in Oswestry from a Mercedes van.

That van was stopped on the A5 on January 28, 2017, where Tandy was under the influence of drugs.

Officers found a package of cannabis in the van, worth between £2,500 and £4,000.

The court was told that a number of people were involved in the case, but had not faced charges.

Police found transactions on Tandy's phone, running into the thousands, for drug drops in Rotherham and Oswestry.

Mr Beardwell said Tandy had not played the role of a courier, but a significant role in moving drugs into Oswestry.

Ranjit Sandhu, defending, said his client had been a class A drug user for 25 years, but had been clean since 2012.

He told the court Tandy was acting under duress to complete the drug drops, to pay off outstanding drug debts.

However, now he works as a suspended ceiling fixer, and he can pay any debts himself in future. Mr Sandhu said it was a stupidity and a lack of thinking on his client's part, and that his employer did not know what he was using the van for.

Mel named as hospital health hero



Mel McMahon receives her award from chief executive Mark Brandreth, watched by colleagues

A "LIFE-saving" staff nurse has been named a health hero by her colleagues.

Mel McMahon, who works on Powys Ward at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital, won the award after receiving 12 nominations from her colleagues who described her as "passionate, professional and caring".

Her nominations came from Powys Ward manager Deb Povall, sister Heather Owen, acute pain

sister Nicki Williams, ward clerk Angela Roberts, student nurse Charlotte Rigg, staff nurses Sarah Holgate and Ellie Smith, and healthcare assistants Jeremy Chavez, Jen Richardson, Hazel Arnold, Ruth Llewellyn and Julie Beardmore.

Ms Povall said: "Mel provides leadership beyond her years; this was demonstrated in a recent emergency when she stayed calm and led the team which saved a life."

"Every manager would be lucky

to have a Mel." Ms Llewellyn said: "She is a brilliant staff nurse who is always happy and smiley."

"I always enjoy and look forward to working with her."

Ms Williams said: "Mel is kind, approachable and intelligent as well as proactive, supportive to others and unaware of how good she is."

The award was presented to staff nurse McMahon by the hospital trust's chief executive Mark Brandreth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vans targeted by tool thieves

POLICE are appealing for information after another spate of thefts of tools from vans on the Shropshire/Montgomeryshire border.

A number of thefts were reported on the evening of August 26 in the Welshpool area, along with tools being taken from a Ford Transit van on the same night in Chirbury.

Power tools were also stolen from another van overnight on August 28 and 29 in Clun.

The suspected vehicle involved in the Welshpool incidents was a silver Vauxhall Vectra saloon.

Anyone with information can contact police on 101.

Training company has a new boss

A COMPANY which provides training and apprenticeships has appointed a new chief operating officer.

Faith O'Brien has stepped up from a consultancy role to the new position at Welshpool-based Cambrian Training Company, which has regional offices in Llanelli, Holyhead, Colwyn Bay and Builth Wells.

The company specialises in the delivery of work-based apprenticeships, Jobs Growth Wales and employment opportunities across a range of industries.

Its core business is in the food and drink and catering and hospitality industries. She said: "Cambrian Training Company is an organisation that I am excited and proud to work for."

Musicians to play at village hall

TWO local musicians will be playing at Rhydycroesau Village Hall near Oswestry.

Faith Brackenbury and John Neilson released their first CD, Crossings, marking five years of musical collaboration.

On Saturday they will be celebrating the release with a special concert in the venue where the album was recorded.

Tickets cost £9 and can be bought from Rowanthorn shop, Oswestry.

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Kevin Keegan

Keegan to tell of his football career

ONE of the greatest players in football history will be in Oswestry this autumn for the launch of his new book.

Kevin Keegan will tell of his career from the streets of Doncaster to signing for Liverpool and Hamburg when he appears at The Lion Quays

Hotel on October 1 to promote My Life in Football. After retiring from playing he spent five years as manager at Newcastle United during which the club was promoted to the Premier League.

During his talk, which has been organised by Oswestry's Booka

Bookshop, the footballing legend will tell the full story of the highs of his career as well as the lows of managing England and his unhappy return to Newcastle for a second stint as manager.

The evening will consist of a talk, audience question and answer ses-

sion and a meet and greet. Tickets for the event cost £25 and include a signed copy of My Life in Football.

They are available from the bookshop or online at eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-kevin-keegan-tickets-49474320023 Doors open at 6.15pm for a 7pm start.

Reassurances given over teenage murder bid claim

Report by Jonny Drury

PEOPLE have been asked not to be alarmed after a 17-year-old was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder.

Police in Oswestry said the attack, which left a 15-year-old boy in a critical condition in hospital, was an isolated incident.

Officers were called to St Oswald's Church graveyard on August 24 between 3pm and 4pm, after reports of a serious assault.

The 17-year-old was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder, and was kept in police custody over a weekend, as the scene was cordoned off.

Ticket holders after refunds

TICKET holders are still waiting for their money back from a music festival that was cancelled five months ago.

Fieldbreeze Music Festival was due to attract thousands to Oswestry.

But a month before it was due to take place at Park Hall on May 5, organisers pulled the plug.

People who brought tickets through Eventbrite have had refunds.

But Lucy Stevens from Shrewsbury bought two VIP tickets for £123, but has not seen any money back or had any correspondence from the organisers. She is now on maternity leave, and says she wants her money back. Festival CEO Shawn Melusi claimed in June that only a small number of people were left requiring refunds. He said this week that he did not want to add to his earlier statement.

On Monday last week, police confirmed the teenager had been released on bail.

Tracy Ryan, inspector for the Oswestry area, urged people not to be alarmed but confirmed there had been an increased police in the town.

A renewed appeal for information has also been issued.

She said: "We have had an increased police presence in the town and are continuing that. We are continuing to investigate the incident, and are appealing for anyone with information to step forward. There is no need for the people of the town to be alarmed, this is an isolated incident and there isn't a threat or impact on the wider community."

Police cars had blocked both entrances to the church as investigations were held into the circumstances.

Police said on Tuesday this week the 15-year-old boy's condition was "serious but stable".

Anyone with information should contact West Mercia Police on 101 quoting reference 608s 240818.

Just 21 attend baby unit talks



Birthing services could stop at Oswestry's maternity unit

JUST 21 people attended meetings over plans to suspend births at Shropshire's rural midwife-led units until a long-term plan for the county's maternity services is put in place.

The proposal has been made by Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, which carried out a six-week public engagement exercise to find out the impact this would have on women and their families.

A report to SaTH's trust board said 15 events for the public and 15 events for staff were held across the county.

But it revealed just nine members of the public and 12 staff attended the events.

Board members were also told that views were sought via a questionnaire on SaTH's website, however it has not yet been revealed how many people responded in that way. A report containing any recommendations is expected to be presented to the board at the end of September.

It comes as a public consultation on plans to scrap births completely at the maternity units in Bridgnorth, Oswestry and Ludlow is yet to start.

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An extraordinary woman to be focus of heritage talk

Report by Sue Austin

VISITORS are invited to take a trip back in time to find out more about the extraordinary woman who founded Shropshire's Derwen College back in 1927.

As part of Heritage Open Days' focus on "Extraordinary Women", the specialist college, near Oswestry, celebrates the work of its inspirational founder Dame Agnes Hunt, with home-made cake and a journey through the archives.

Expansion of town to start in 2019

WORK will begin next year to build 600 homes on the edge of Oswestry, according to developers.

The new estate marks a significant expansion of the town. J Ross Developments has won outline planning permission from Shropshire Council to build the houses on land off Shrewsbury Road. It has held talks to resolve issues regarding traffic and the effect more cars would have on surrounding areas. And it hopes to start work on the homes early next year once full planning permission has been granted.

J Ross Developments managing director Nick Scott said: "We have been working closely with the local authority to complete the necessary legal documentation to allow the planning permission to be issued.

"We are hopeful this process will be completed shortly so that we can progress our reserved matter planning application for the first phase of residential development.

"We recognise the importance of this scheme for the town of Oswestry, which requires a range of good quality homes to meet the needs of local residents."

Outline permission was granted in April for the land, on the eastern edge of Oswestry, and detailed plans will go before Shropshire Council shortly.

From Shropshire to Tasmania and home again, visitors can discover the travels, tales and adventures of the extraordinary Agnes, who started Derwen College in Gobowen more than nine decades ago.

Early in her childhood Agnes developed a disability that left her in permanent pain. Despite this, she travelled the world, including living in the bush in Tasmania, before returning to the UK to train as a nurse.

In 1900 she opened a convalescent home for "crippled" children where she promoted the benefits of open-air treatments for disabled children.

Agnes later went on to co-found the Orthopaedic Hospital in Gobowen, Oswestry, treating older patients, soldiers and civilians injured in the First World War. In 1927, at the age of 61, Dame Agnes founded the Derwen Training College, also in Gobowen, where physically disabled young people could learn a trade and become partially or wholly self-supporting.

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together more than 2,500 organisations. Every year in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history offering visitors the chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences for free.

People can join Derwen College for a talk with home-made refreshments today (Thursday) between 2pm to 3pm.

The event will be repeated on Saturday, September 15, between 11am to midday. The Orangery Restaurant is open from 10am to 4pm for visitors wishing to order lunch.

Booking for the Heritage Open Day event is essential. Contact Helen Edwards on (01691) 661234.

● **Celebration – See Page 16**

Mother and daughter in final



Judith and Gemma Thornell are celebrating golfing success

A MOTHER and daughter duo from Oswestry have been enjoying time together playing golf for years.

Now they're celebrating getting to the final of a ladies club championship at Oswestry Golf Club.

Judith and Gemma Thornell reached the final after excellent rounds.

Gemma is playing off five and was going for her 13th title against the very person who inspired her to take up golf and who has been a proud supporter of hers throughout her golfing career.

Gemma came out victorious to claim

title number 13 to once again stamp her mark on the event. Gemma said: "It was a bit surreal competing against mum after everything she has done for me and my golf over the years. We play lots of social golf together, but this did put a slightly different spin on things. I'm delighted to win but most of all extremely proud to have shared this final with mum."

However there is a glimmer of hope for her competitors for 2019 as Gemma is expecting her first child early next year, although she is still expecting to compete in next year's event.

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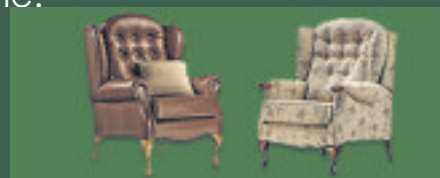


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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

You might think twice about selling your car to website giant "We Buy Any Car" in the future if you read this week's news that its boss has received a £29 million bonus – 59 times more than her annual salary.

I have got no problem with Avril Palmer-Baumack earning a bonus based on her incentive plan.

The incentive plan was drawn up around her growing the British Car Auctions (BCA) business which owns the popular car website.

But the actual amount is obscene.

It has been highly criticised by "City" experts.

Particularly as she also got an eight per cent increase to her basic salary to £525,000.

The executive chairman at BCA is now believed to be the highest paid female company boss of a London Stock Exchange-listed firm ever.

And I also have no problem with that.

My issue is that the company is clearly exploiting those desperate to sell vehicles.

And profits like those quoted clearly show they are producing enormous profit margins which prompted me to check for myself.

My own vehicle was quickly valued online at a price I regarded to be between £1,500 and £2,000 too low.

And since the enquiry I have been bombarded by unwanted telephone calls and emails encouraging me to accept their offer.

Little wonder that a rival car buyer claims to have offered on average £500 more per vehicle than We Buy Any Car valuations for over 39,000 vehicles in a nine-month period during 2017.

Good luck with spending all that cash Ms Palmer-Baumack.

But I for one won't be sending any vehicles your way in the near future.

And the news is likely to deter a lot of other would-be clients too.

I had to laugh at the Powys resident caught illegally dumping household decorating waste in the south of the county and finding that the offence can be costly.

Council officers didn't have too much of a problem tracing the clueless culprit who had left a 150-yard trail of white paint all the way back to their doorstep.

It didn't take Sherlock Holmes to solve this crime which left the resident coughing up a £400 fine.

You couldn't make it up.



The AO recycling plant at Halesfield, Telford



Brothers Anthony Sant and Robert Sant in front of Bertha



Steel recovered from a fridge by Bertha

Place where old fridges are sent to meet their end

MARK ANDREWS reports on how a machine called Bertha is revolutionising recycling in Shropshire

ANTHONY Sant picks up a handful of fine, shrapnel-like material from a conveyor belt, and clutches it in the palm of his hand.

"It is quite warm to touch," says the marketing director of AO Recycling. Which is quite surprising, given that a few minutes ago this would have been a refrigerator.

We're at AO's mammoth recycling plant in Telford, the largest centre for recycling old white goods in the UK, and probably Europe.

"We process about 100 fridges every hour," says Anthony's brother Robert, managing director of AO Recycling.

The process takes about 12 minutes from start to finish; old fridges, freezers, washing machines and tumble dryers enter the plant at Halesfield Industrial Estate at one end, and minutes later come out the other end as carefully sorted lumps and powders which are taken away to be used again. The plastics are used to make seed trays for Dutch flower growers, the insulation foam is used as fuel to generate electricity. The metals are sorted into lumps which can be re-used again, and may potentially end up being used to make new fridges and washing machines.

"Our aim is that nothing goes to landfill," says Robert. "At the moment you can't do anything else with the gases. We treat them so they can be safely disposed of, but everything else is recycled."



The AO recycling plant reconditions about 1,000 appliances for resale every week

The scale of the operation is breathtaking. The plant, which was officially opened by environment minister Theresa Coffey, processes more than 700,000 appliances a year, or just over 20 per cent of all white goods scrapped every year.

The majority are appliances discarded by AO's customers, but the plant also has contracts with other organisations, including Telford & Wrekin Council.

"If you take your old fridge to a council operated disposal site in Telford, they will end up here," says Robert.

The journey starts in a giant loading bay, where the appliances are graded according to their condition. The best ones are refurbished with the help of apprentices from local colleges, and offered for sale in a nearby outlet shop.

"We're very much a throwaway society," says Anthony. "Very often people throw things away when they're still working, and these are reconditioned for resale. We process round about 1,000 of these every week."

Other appliances, which are not good enough for resale, can be broken up for spare parts. And then the others, the ones which have no intrinsic value, will meet their end at the hands of Bertha.

Bertha is the name given to the 80-ton machine which devours old fridges like a paper shredder, which is able to devour 100 domestic appliances in the space of an hour. But before their date with Bertha, the oil and dangerous fluids have to be drained from the appliances, and the motors removed.

Once this has been done, they are

sent on a conveyor belt to the machine that turns them to dust. Bertha is a truly stunning piece of equipment; it can destroy up to 16 appliances in the space of about six minutes, slicing them up with huge, heavy chains made from 2in thick metal.

"We show some of the fridge manufacturers around, and they find it a bit disconcerting," says Robert. "They find it a bit difficult that we are so passionate about destroying the products they love." Bertha, which is about the height of a three storey house, processes the appliances inside an airtight container. As her massive chains create a vortex which smashes the machines into tiny pieces, the potentially harmful gases are released.

"That was a big one," remarks Anthony as the platform at the top of the machine briefly shakes from the pressure. Nitrogen is pumped into the chamber, which has the double benefit of not only preventing an explosion, but also turning harmful gases such as CFC in older fridges, and pentane in newer ones, into liquid form. These are then siphoned off and sent away to an authorised disposal company.

By the time Bertha has done her damage, a mixture of plastic, metal and polyurethane foam comes on a conveyor through the other end ready to be sorted. The plant, which began operating a year ago, employs 200 people, and Anthony says Telford's location at the heart of the motorway network was crucial to the decision to base the plant there. He hopes it will become the template for similar plants in other parts of the country.

"In the past, people only recycled things when there was money to be made from it," he says. "Now we are doing it because it is what our customers want."

WORKING FOR YOU



I write this column after returning to Montgomeryshire, following three weeks in Colombia. It was my first visit to South America. I'm looking forward to making a return visit. My interest in Colombia arises from a family connection, but has developed into a fascination for a country of stunning beauty and massive potential. I also believe that in the context of Brexit, those of us involved in government, at whatever level, should use whatever relationships we have in the world beyond the European Union to develop international trade and diplomatic links. Colombia is a massive country, bigger than Germany and France combined. It has a population of over 50 million. Its capital city, Bogota, has roughly the same population as Greater London – over eight million. Bogota is built on a high plateau, and is twice as high above sea level as the peak of Ben Nevis! Its second city, Medellin is more than twice the size of Birmingham. There is great potential for Britain's major infrastructure development businesses to win contracts building roads, hospital, airports, transportation schemes etc. The cost of living is easy on the wallet as well!

Colombia, like most of South America has a very violent history.

And we have a real expert on South America living here in Montgomeryshire. Robert Harvey, an internationally acclaimed author from Melfod, has written several books about Colombia. I recommend 'Romantic Revolutionary' based on the remarkable life of Simon Bolivar, known as the 'Liberator' of Latin America from Spanish imperialism. There is real danger that violence could break out again in neighbouring Venezuela, where Governments led by Marxist leaders, Chavez and Maduro have reduced the wealthiest South American country to one where money is worth nothing, hospitals have no drugs and millions are fleeing over the border to avoid starvation. There was a 'supposed' attempt to assassinate Maduro while we were there.

The transformation of Colombia, and Medellin in particular is truly astonishing – all achieved through 'forgiveness', visionary city planning and a determination by the people to reclaim their country from the drug barons. I hope I can play a role in developing the more favourable impression of what is a wonderful country and a wonderful people following my visit.

Glyn Davies
Montgomeryshire MP

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We should be better prepared for this

WHAT is it with politicians that they are somehow so removed from the real world and how it affects the rest of us, that they never see what is coming until it's way too late?

This country should have been put on a red alert as soon as a hint of a drought came to light. We have long ago lost some of our precious waterways and many that are left are more toxic now than ever they were in 1976. So, once again, as well as affecting

our health, wildlife is paying the price for our profligacy.

When the reservoirs are dry, and that can happen extraordinarily quickly in this hot weather, when millions of gallons are lost to evaporation, they will ban car washes, jacuzzis, hosepipes and daily showers. Probably. Too little, too late. The tankers will roll in with their rationed water for each area, which will never be enough, the taps will be dry for most of the day and the sale

of deodorants will escalate as will that of bottled water. Criminals will probably have a field day. Keep your water under lock and key if the worst comes to the worst.

Too late, they will issue a state of emergency and call in what is left of army reserves to control our now uncontrollable populace, unused as it is to being told what to do.

WILL KNOTT
Shrewsbury

Vandalism brought about demise of bus shelter



This St Martins bus shelter had been so badly vandalised that it was at the point of collapse, and had to be demolished in April 1987. Local police officer, Robert Taylor, appealed to villagers not to protect the culprits, who he said could have injured somebody.

Faith restored in human race by super health staff

MY faith in the human race has been restored after a stay at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

After an accident I experienced the trolley traffic jam while they searched to find me a bed. After 11pm I was moved into an A&E ward and eventually to a bed on Ward 22. In all that time I witnessed dedicated staff, battling against difficult odds in energy-sapping conditions. These people work 12.5-hour shifts which is far too much for such mental and physical work. They are always on hand to answer patient calls and do it with grace.

Thank you all for the reassurance, the kindness, the humour but most of all for the smiles. You should all be proud of yourselves.

I'd love to see the health secretary in a corridor traffic jam waiting for a bed and to witness the staff struggling to cope. What I don't want to see is another photo opportunity in a staged ward as if everything is fine.

ROD SHAW
Shrewsbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
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EMAIL

ian.stjohn@
shropshirestar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Make sure you are in the right team

'IT'S a goal'. Marcus Rashford was right in front of the goal with only the keeper to beat and he shot wide. How he must wish he'd put it in the net and heard the shout, 'it's a goal'. That's what we all want, to be a winner. To be a winner you have to be in the right team, if you're not you will lose in the end, however hard you try. Jesus said: "Be of good cheer I have overcome the world." He was kicked to death but he rose victorious from the dead. You can't go wrong if you are in His team.

RON JONES
St Martins

The decision on EU must be accepted by every one of us

I AM sick and fed up of Remainers, friends and foes alike and their letters about Brexit.

We had a democratic vote, the same type of vote that decides our governments, councils etc. First past the post. Full stop.

These people have given the EU false hopes that we may like Ireland keep having elections until the elite get what they want.

People keep on about the effect on the poor.

Millions of less well off people voted for us to leave.

This was because they saw the ever growing gravy train provided by the EU, the fact that our laws were being made by unelected people and that many of the elite were getting richer on the backs of the less well off.

So I suggest you shut up, accept the democratic decision, because by your actions you will be blamed and rightly so for the attitude of the EU dictators which has been detrimental to our country.

D L BARNETT
Arleston

Support is needed for care leavers to succeed

AS local authorities start work on publishing their new local offer of services for care leavers, Barnardo's is calling on them to carefully consider what can be done to help more young people who have left care to secure an education, employment or training.

Statistics and our own experience show that young people who have been in care are less likely to be in education, training or employment than those who have not been in care. Overall 40 per cent of 19-21 year old care leavers in England were not in education, employment or training in 2017, compared to 13 per cent of all 19 to 21 year olds. The number of looked after children has also increased significantly in recent years at the same time as local authority budgets have been cut, with 37,720 care leavers aged 17-21 in England in March 2017. In 2016-17, Barnardo's supported more than 3,200 children who had left care and our research found that the main barriers to employment were a lack of qualifications and experience, the stigma of having been in care and mental health issues.

The new requirement on local authorities to publish their offer of services available to care leavers provides a perfect opportunity to revisit whether they are doing enough to support these young people.

Barnardo's believes local authorities should commission improved quality services, including advice on employment, training and skills, access to a range of suitable accommodation options, and to support with preparation for independent living guided by personal advisors

LYNN PERRY
Director for Barnardo's
North Midlands

Litter louts are scourge

WHATEVER happened to Keep Britain Tidy?

It seems the children and parents of this present generation have never been taught to respect the areas in which they live.

Most areas seem to have adequate rubbish bins.

But it seems people are ignorant of, or have got no intention of, using them.

I mean, come on people, it's not rocket science!

When I was younger my parents always installed in me that if there are no rubbish bins available, bring it home and put it in the dustbin, now wheeler bin. Some would call these individuals 'dirty pigs', but if you have anything to do with the farming community, you will know that pigs are clean animals.

Doesn't say much for human beings who don't seem to care less, does it?

MARTIN EDDIES
Shrewsbury

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Inquest told of complications

A MAN died at his home due to complications following heart surgery, an inquest heard.

David Henderson, 67, died at the property in Whittington Road, Gobowen, on August 21. The hearing was told that the retired social services researcher had a history of coronary heart disease.

Coroner's officer Julie Hartridge told the inquest that he underwent heart valve replacement surgery at Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital in April this year, but further problems were found during the procedure. The cause of death was given as bacterial endocarditis, aorta valve replacement and cardio vascular disease.

Coroner John Ellery recorded a conclusion that Mr Henderson's death was due to complications of surgery.

Three cars in crash on A483

THREE cars were involved in a crash on the A483 near Pant on Wednesday last week.

It happened near to the Cross Guns pub.

Police confirmed the crash on social media, saying the incident had involved three cars.

No one was injured and occupants were out of the vehicles and walking following the crash at around 12pm, it was confirmed.

At the time of the crash people advised motorists that the road was still open, but to take care when driving near the scene.

Shed break-in reported

THIEVES broke into a garden shed at Erw Wen, Morda near Oswestry.

Police say the burglary took place between August 18 and 20 with a tool box among the items taken.

Highways experts back former court proposal

Report by Emily Lloyd

HIGHWAYS experts have backed plans to convert a town's former magistrates' court into homes – despite strong concerns from neighbouring residents.

The proposals will see the conversion of the court building into 10 apartments with eight townhouses and a pair of semi-detached homes built within the grounds of the site on Holbach Road in Oswestry.

They were submitted separately in June. But they have faced major concerns that the road network could become congested.

WSP UK Ltd, on behalf of Shropshire Council's Transport Team, gave no objections to either proposal, adding: "It is considered that the proposed development is unlikely to have any severe adverse impact on the local highway network."

While most residents have backed the development, their concerns have surrounded access via Holbach Road and the semi-detached homes proposed there. Phil Goodwin said: "I object to Holbach Road becoming a through road if the gates to the proposed development are opened up."

"This has a serious concern for safety with the potential for motorists to cut through from Welsh Walls to Upper Church street and vice versa."

Susan Page added: "My prime concern is the road safety in that whilst Holbach Road is theoretically a cul-de-sac and more often than not I have to reverse onto the busy Welsh Walls due to non resident parking making it impossible to turn around, I have previously requested a turning point to alleviate this danger."

Charlie on the run for good cause



Charlie Howard ran the Shrewsbury Half Marathon as part of his training

A FUNDRAISER has run 100 kilometres to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the RAF.

Charlie Howard wanted to do something unique for the anniversary, so decided to run the distance and raise £1,000 for the RAF Benevolent Fund.

Charlie has completed months of training and on August 15 began the task and completed it – a small matter of around 60 miles.

Charlie ran part of the Trans Pennine Trail from Liverpool to Manchester, setting off at about 5am, with the aim of finishing the run in around 16 hours.

A member of his family said: "He decided to run 100km in a day to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the RAF and at the same time he would raise a £1,000 pounds for the RAF Benevolent Fund."

"His choice of activity and charity reflect his commitment to his role as Sergeant in 1119 (Shrewsbury) Squadron RAF cadets and his plans to join the RAF as a physical training instructor when he completes his A levels next year."

He recently completed the Shrewsbury Half Marathon as one of his training sessions, gaining a time of under two hours.

Town has worst crime record says councillor

FIGURES suggest Oswestry has the highest crime rate per 1,000 people in Shropshire.

Figures published by Ludlow councillor Andy Boddington have shown that Oswestry has the highest crime rate, of 76 crimes per 1,000 people.

Whitchurch and Shrewsbury have 67, with Market Drayton having 65 crimes and Ludlow 60.

Councillor Boddington posted the information on his blog, stating, in Shropshire, there were 45,725 crimes recorded between mid-2015 to mid-2017.

Oswestry Mayor Sandy Best said: "We have a skeleton police service in Oswestry, and that could be linked to the figures."

"There aren't enough police officers, but there are other aspects also linked to it."

Oswestry county councillor Vince Hunt said that it was disappointing to hear Oswestry was top of the list released by Councillor Boddington.

He said it could be down to people reporting more crime in the area.

He also believes Oswestry isn't a violent town.

He added: "It is disappointing to see that Oswestry is top, but there are a number of things behind the figures and I will be seeking a meeting with the local policing team to discuss that."

"There are other factors. "It could be the case that the police force is working really well here and people are more confident in reporting crime."

"We don't want Oswestry to be branded as a crime town, and I don't think it is."

The councillor added: "Apart from the odd weekend boozed up fight you don't see crime."

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Application lodged to build poultry rearing unit

A PLANNING application has been submitted to build a poultry rearing unit on the Shropshire/Powys border.

The application was recently validated by Powys County Council planning department, and is for a rearing unit with silos and associated works on land at Pentre Farm, Coedway, Crew Green. It was validated by the planning department in July and will go before the committee later this year. No more details have yet been posted online on the Powys Planning Portal regarding the plans, and no objections have received. There has been a boom in the number of applications that have been submitted to Powys County Council over the last year.

Farms in Llanfyllin, Llanymynech, Newtown, Llanidloes and Rhayader all applied for permission along with a host of others.

Last year, Mark and Helen Williams, who run a farm in Forden, opened up a unit that houses 16,000 chickens. The couple said they made the move to diversify due to uncertainty on in prices of lamb and beef prices.

However earlier this year, the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales said the number of plans for poultry farms is threatening the environment.

The organisation urged ministers to come up with a long term strategy for the industry. In Powys alone, 99 applications for new poultry sheds have been made since 2011, involving three million birds. Just one was refused permission. Dr Christine Hugh-Jones, of the Brecon and Radnorshire branch of CPRW, said in May that applications for poultry units were "coming in thick and fast and they virtually never get refused".

Council in legal action against football club

Report by Jonny Drury

SHROPSHIRE Council has opened legal proceedings against Oswestry's The New Saints Football Club in a bid to recover a £80,000 grant.

The council granted the money in 2012 so the club could build a stand to compete in European competitions. Earlier this year it was revealed that only £10,000 of the money has been paid back.

An audit report found the authority failed to ensure repayment grants were being made due to staff turnover and weak management structures. Club owner Mike Harris called for an apology or he would seek damages, alleging the council had "blackened" the club's name. Shropshire Council confirmed this week it has now opened legal proceedings against the club to recover the money. Claire Porter, head of legal and democratic services, said: "We have commenced court proceedings and we are therefore unable to make any further comment during the course of the litigation." In response, Mike Harris said: "Any claim will be met with a counter claim and I will expect the chief executive, the elected council executive led by Peter Nutting to resign or be removed when they fail."

"I feel very sorry for the Shropshire Council tax payer when they elect and hire people to preside over such shambles."

"From requiring a simple apology will now require hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation for reputation and legal fees, along with making Shropshire a no go place for business and putting local peoples jobs at risk. Our county needs a new broom through the political class."

Entrepreneur in national award hope



Mike Harris is in the running for a top national business award

THE owner of a football club and IT company has been shortlisted for a national award.

Mike Harris is in the running for the 2018 NatWest Great British Entrepreneur Awards in the Small Business Entrepreneur of the Year category.

Mr Harris, who runs SiFi Networks, is also chairman of Welsh Premier League Champions The New Saints FC.

He beat off competition in order to make the Midlands regional shortlist, with a record number of businesses entering the awards nationally across the wide range of categories.

Now in its sixth year, the NatWest Great British Entrepreneur Awards has celebrated many entrepreneurs over the years, many of whom are now household names.

Past winners include David Buttress of Just Eat, Julie Deane OBE of The Cambridge Satchel Company, James Watt of Brew-Dog and most recently, Hannah and Sophie Pycroft of Spectrum Collections.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reassurances on jail numbers

REASSURANCES have been given amid fears over overcrowding at a prison that houses a number of the region's criminals.

HMP Berwyn in Wrexham has prison inmates from around the region and it was reported recently that it was running out of cells.

Campaigners had warned that the safety of staff and inmates was being put at risk as the prison population increases.

Figures from the Ministry of Justice show that the prison has 1,195 inmates, and in July had space for 59 new prisoners.

A Prison Service spokesman added: "All prisons in England and Wales are within their operational capacity which means they are safe for inmates."

Chance to enjoy opera in town

HERITAGE Opera, North West England's professional touring opera company, returns to Oswestry for their sixth visit on Sunday with their production of Bizet's Carmen.

Performing at the Marches School's theatre on Sunday, the show starts at 6pm. Carmen is the world's most popular opera, which include lots of well-known tunes, and will be accompanied by a six-piece orchestra. A story of love, jealousy, passion and murder, being performed in English, organisers say this is the most accessible opera for anyone who may have never experienced live opera.

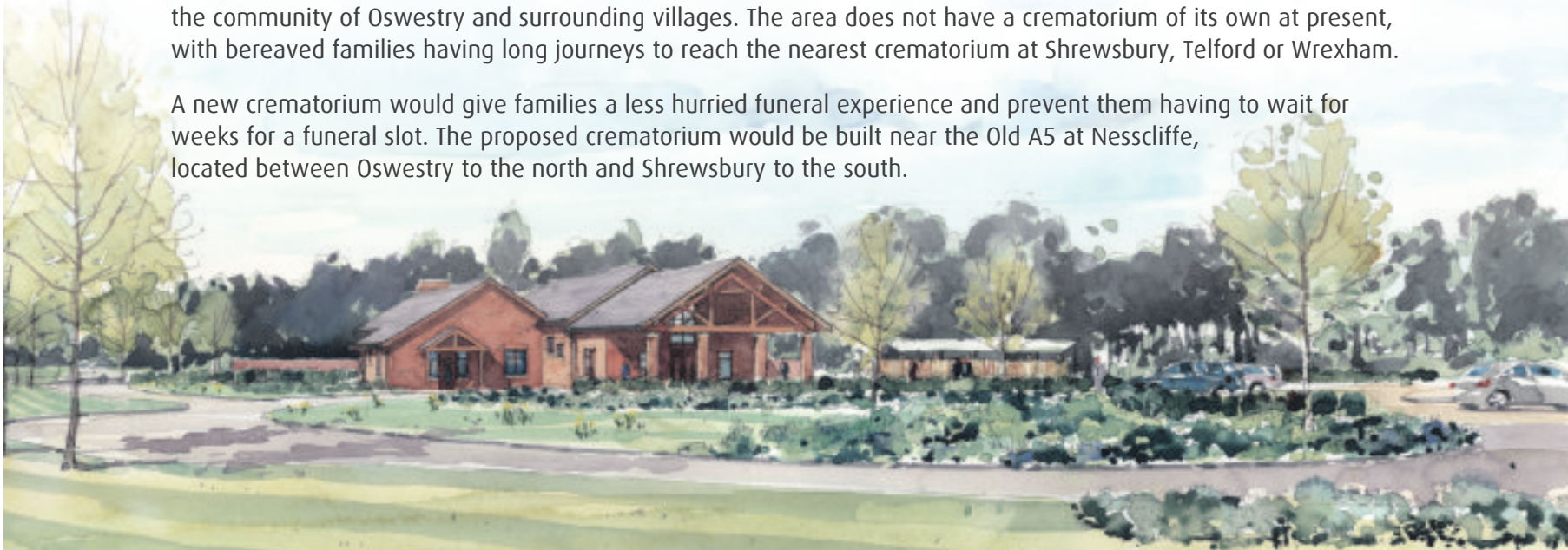
Ticket prices are £26 adults, £24 seniors, but you can bring as many under 18s as you like for free, which makes this a great opportunity for youngsters. Tickets available from Rowan Thorn in Old Chapel Court, on (01691) 238227, or online at www.rowanthorn.co.uk

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

A New Crematorium For Oswestry and the Surrounding Area

Westerleigh, the country's leading developer and operator of crematoria, has plans for a new crematorium to serve the community of Oswestry and surrounding villages. The area does not have a crematorium of its own at present, with bereaved families having long journeys to reach the nearest crematorium at Shrewsbury, Telford or Wrexham.

A new crematorium would give families a less hurried funeral experience and prevent them having to wait for weeks for a funeral slot. The proposed crematorium would be built near the Old A5 at Nesscliffe, located between Oswestry to the north and Shrewsbury to the south.



The public exhibition will be on Tuesday 18th September from 2:30pm to 7:00pm at Nesscliffe Village Hall, Holyhead Road, Nesscliffe, Shropshire SY4 1AX. All members of the public are welcome for as long or as little time as they wish to spend at the exhibition.

Further details can be found at www.westerleighgroup.co.uk or by writing to ealdridge@westerleighgroup.co.uk



westerleigh
GROUP

empathy, care & understanding
crematoria & cemetery development

NEWS IN BRIEF

Agenda set for meeting

POWYS Association of Voluntary Organisations will be holding its annual conference and AGM in Newtown on November 13.

It will be between 10am and 3.30pm at the Cefn Lea Conference Centre, the group has said.

The theme of the conference is resourceful communities.

The day will provide an opportunity to engage with a wide range of stakeholders in the future, the group has said.

Local spend in the spotlight

POWYS County Council and Construction Futures Wales are holding two supplier engagement days to increase the local spend.

These events will offer opportunities to join the local authority supply chain and have a one-to-one meeting to pitch businesses to the Powys procurement team.

This is as part of Powys County Council's aims to increase their local spend over the next three years.

These events will take place in Brecon Castle Hotel on Tuesday and Newtown Football Club on Thursday next week between 10am and 4pm.

Construction Futures Wales' Bethan Wright, said: "These events will offer the opportunity to win work for projects in the area both through Powys Council directly, and their preferred contractors. Construction Futures Wales will also be offering bespoke business support surgeries at both events."

Taxi driver has licence revoked over claims

Report by Jonny Drury

A TAXI driver has had his hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence revoked following allegations of inappropriate behaviour.

The taxi driver in Powys had his licences revoked following allegations that were made by a 16-year-old girl.

Details and the location of the taxi driver have not been revealed, but the decision has come to light in the minutes of the taxi licensing and sub committee at Neaudd Maldwyn in Welshpool in May.

The minutes were seen by a recent Powys County Council planning, taxi licensing and rights of way committee.

The minutes state: "The children's manager for north Powys attended the meeting and explained that the disclosure of inappropriate behaviour was made by a vulnerable 16-year-old to her casework support officers."

"The licensing officer explained that licence had been suspended based on allegations concerning the above matter and previous convictions."

"The sub-committee withdrew to consider, in private, the review and the evidence they had heard, with the support of the clerk."

"On their return the chair announced their decision."

"In reaching the decision members took into account the relevant written and verbal representations."

Play looks at the tragedy of war



The Unknown Soldier will be performed in Welshpool

A PLAY which focuses on the horrors of war will be performed in Welshpool.

The Unknown Soldier can be seen at the Church House, Welshpool on September 30 at 2pm, doors open at 1.30pm. Tickets are £5.50 and £4.50 for under 14 years available from Welshpool Jewellers or Theatre Hafren box office.

It looks at the First World War from a new perspective, through the eyes of a man who has survived the carnage but who finds it hard to return home.

It is a story of comradeship, betrayal and of promises both broken and kept following the carnage of World War One.

It was the official EdFringe 2016 sell out show by award nominated writer of Casualties.

A spokesman said: "Jack stayed on when the guns fell silent, to search the battlefields for the boys that could not go home - for the dead and the missing, for both enemy and friend. Amongst the rusty wire and unexploded bombs Jack is looking for something - looking for someone. He has a promise to keep and a debt to repay."

Farmers are urged to fight for the future

FARMERS must get behind their industry and fight for the future, according to organisers of a Brexit roadshow in Welshpool.

NFU Cymru is urging all members to attend the Welshpool Livestock Market on Monday next week to ensure they are informed of Welsh Government's proposals outlined in the Brexit and Our Land consultation. During the 2pm event, NFU Cymru will outline Welsh Government proposals for future farm support, which include phasing out current direct support payments.

John Davies, NFU Cymru president said: "Brexit and Our Land is the most significant consultation in a generation."

"We only have one chance to ensure the industry's voice is heard loud and clear."

"While the union will of course be submitting a response to this consultation, it is vital that each and every farmer puts in their own response."

"We want to ensure the Welsh government knows that the wider farmer industry will be affected by any decisions made following the consultation period."

"We cannot simply sit back and hope someone else will respond to this consultation."

"We need to get behind our industry and fight for the future of Welsh farming."

"This is an important issue. We want people to come along, bring friends, family and neighbours and make sure we are prepared for the future."

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*The initial consultation fee will be invoiced separately by the consultant after the consultation; the initial dietician consultation is including in the package price unless the patient decides against surgery. Should the patient opt out of surgery then a £100 charge will be levied by Nuffield Health.

Number of missions is on the rise

MIDLANDS Air Ambulance Charity attended 23 per cent more missions in the last 12 months than in the previous year, as well as attending its 50,000th mission in March.

Trauma and accidental incidents rose overall, reaching 1,749, of which 736 were road traffic collisions, which were up 20 per cent in comparison to 2016/17.

Stabbings and violent crime were also responsible for the rise in call-outs, making up almost seven per cent of missions throughout the year. On average, Midlands Air Ambulance Charity now airlifts a biker every three days, and a horse rider every four days. Ian Roberts, air operations manager for Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, said: "It's clear from these statistics that the need for the support of the critical care paramedics and doctors on board our helicopters is higher than ever, which is why we are constantly looking to improve our operational and clinical services to ensure we can keep saving lives every day."

"The skilled aircrew, together with state of the art equipment and helicopters, ensure a patient's chances of survival are vastly increased, but in order to stay operational we need to raise in excess of £9 million each year."

"Thankfully, the general public and local businesses across the six counties we cover do an amazing job every year to raise funds for the charity."

To get involved in raising funds for Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, visit midlandsairambulance.com

New series of classes to be launched

A NEW series of exercise classes is being launched across Shropshire to help older people maintain their independence and mobility in later life.

The Elevate project is aimed at people aged 65 and above who want to improve their strength and balance, but in a friendly, social setting with time for a cup of tea. County sports partnership Energize Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin has been commissioned by Shropshire Council to deliver the project, and has been recruiting and training an experienced network of instructors over the last year.

Christina Morgan, Elevate project officer at Energize, said: "These are specialist exercise classes; they are delivered by a team of experts who have been trained in postural stability which is evidenced to improve strength and stability in older people." For those interested in improving strength and stability, further information including a video and referral criteria can be found at www.energize-stw.org.uk/elevate

The first sessions will take place in Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Ludlow, Whitchurch, Bishop's Castle and Craven Arms.

Offer delight for college students

FOUR students from a Shropshire college have been offered the opportunity of a lifetime at the country's leading music and drama schools.

The Ellesmere College students recently received the good news. Jaimie Wakefield, from Ellesmere, will be taking a place at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art while Seren Devismes, also of Ellesmere, will be studying at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Jakob Fradley, from Market Drayton, will be attending the Junior Conservatoire at the Royal Welsh, and Oswestry-born Kizzy Lumley-Edwards has won a place at the Junior Conservatoire at Royal Northern. Tony Coupe, director of music at the college, said to get four students to go on to these types of schools is a fabulous result.

He said: "This is marvellous news for the college and we are absolutely delighted."

Community fun day backs Elsie's treatment hope



Nathan Cutajar, six, from Gobowen, enjoys the fun day

A FUN day to help send a nine-month old girl to America for treatment for a rare genetic condition raised hundreds of pounds.

Elsie Kempster, from Gobowen, near Oswestry, was born with Smith Lemli Opitz Syndrome for which there is currently no cure.

But doctors in America say Elsie may be able to have a trial treatment across the Atlantic.

Parents, Kayleigh Kempster and Nick Purcell, are fundraising so that they can make the

trip to give their daughter every chance of survival.

With no signs of problems with Kayleigh was pregnant other than her baby was small, it came as a shock when Elsie was whisked into the special baby care unit shortly after she was born and had to be fed with a tube.

She was allowed home at 17 days old, still tube fed. "When Elsie was just two months old, just two weeks after Christmas our whole

world was turned upside down when we received the news that Elsie was born with an extremely rare genetic disorder," Kayleigh said.

"We are hoping to raise money to take Elsie to America, where studies and research are being undertaken into SLOS. Research studies are crucial in keeping hope alive that one day, there will be a cure or treatment that will improve the prognosis for children like Elsie. The NIH in America have already agreed to see



Elsie's mum, Kayleigh Kempster, Amy Wood and Elsie's Dad, Nick Purcell

Elsie and run tests that are not performed here in the UK." The fun day was organised by Amy Wood, who works in the Co-op in Gobowen.

She said the fun day, which included a football match, trampolines, stalls and sideshows on the Gobowen Playing Fields, had raised hundreds of pounds. Amy is now planning an autumn fundraiser for the family, a Gary Barlow tribute night at the Venue at Park Hall near Oswestry on October 20.

Friends and neighbours come out to support fete



Paul Carden with the poppies cascade at the castle



Marian Young from Whittington WI



Keith Griffiths, Kath Griffiths, Margaret Hulson and Libby Morris

Report by Jonny Drury

RESIDENTS and visitors came out for some August bank holiday fun at Whittington Village Fete.

The annual event attracted a good crowd, with stalls and entertainment to provide some bank holiday fun for all.

On top of the events that took place, the unveiling of a poppy cascade also took place on one of the towers at the castle in the village.

The community got together and created the poppy cascade, which cascaded down the castle for everyone to see, and marks 100 years since the First World War.

The cascade was the idea of the Whittington Together group, which was set up three years ago to bring together local organisations.

Chairman, Ian Johnson, said it grew from the decision to theme this year's fete around the end of World War One.

He said: "We were told making something like this could take about 18 months but we still pressed ahead and put out a call for help in April."

"Through social media and word of mouth we asked people to knit or crochet poppies and the response was amazing."

Mr Johnson said volunteers came forward not onto from Whittington but other villages nearby.

Children from Whittington Primary School have also created some poppies using bottles.

Entertainment throughout the day included the Brownie queen, refreshments, games, stalls, and Llay Band.



Paul Carden and Brenda Carden with Molly the dog



Sandy Robertson, Sandy Szpala and Yvonne Jennison from the RSPCA Shropshire branch



The poppies cascade made a poignant feature at the village fete

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Charity in appeal for more helpers

A LEADING sight loss charity is calling for volunteers to help run an Oswestry-based support group for people with macular disease.

The Macular Society is appealing for anyone living locally who would be willing to give up some of their time to help organise and run the group's monthly meetings, with help from the charity's services and volunteering team.

The Oswestry Macular Support Group meets on the third Friday of each month, from 2-4pm, at The Qube Centre, Oswald Road. It is one of more than 400 groups of its kind in the UK offering vital information, encouragement and friendship to people who are affected by macular disease. The group's next meeting will be held on September 21.

Amanda Read, Macular Society regional manager, said: "The Oswestry Macular Support Group provides a real lifeline for people living locally with sight loss. The peer support offered by the groups is absolutely vital – it's incredibly reassuring for people to know that there are others who truly understand their situation."

"With more than 200 people in the UK being diagnosed with macular disease every day, the existence of our support groups has never been more important. If you have some free time and would be willing to help out, either by helping to organise the meetings or assisting in some other way, we would love to hear from you."

For details contact (01453) 755803.

Mystery of the Mona Lisa in focus

THE next meeting of the Arts Society Mid Wales and Borders takes place on September 27.

The speaker is Malcolm Kenwood, whose talk is titled The Mona Lisa Mystery.

The venue is the Royal Oak Hotel, Welshpool, and the talk begins at 2.30pm, organisers say.

Visitors are very welcome to attend, though a donation of £6 per person is requested towards costs.

The AGM will begin at 2pm.

For further details contact avril-hart.com or (01938) 555938 or Dennis Duggan at djduggan@supanet.com or on (01938) 555574

The October meeting of the Arts Society Mid Wales and Borders takes place on October 25.

The speaker is Daniel Evans, whose talk is titled Hercules, Hesperides and Cardinal Ippolito.

The venue is again the Royal Oak Hotel, Welshpool.

The talk begins at 2.30pm.

Visitors are again very welcome to attend, though a donation of £6 per person is requested towards costs.

Flower festival has been arranged

A FLOWER festival is set to take place in Welshpool between September 28 and 30, organisers say.

The festival will be running from 10am to 4pm each day at the Methodist Church, High Street.

Floral displays have been created by members of both Welshpool afternoon and evening flower arranging clubs and ladies from the church.

Teas and cakes will be available at the festival.

Admission to the flower festival will be by donation.

Two concerts will also take place over the same weekend.

The Castle Belles Choir will be performing on the Friday night.

Meanwhile, the RAF Cosford band and RAF Shawbury Military Wives Choir will be performing on the Sunday, organisers have said.

MP experiences challenges for blind in town



MP Owen Paterson makes his way with assistance from Guide Dogs for the Blind representatives

AN MP went out with Guide Dogs for the Blind in Oswestry town centre to experience for himself what issues blind or partially sighted people face.

The group, that covers Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, Staffordshire and the Black Country, was in Oswestry to meet North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson.

He was blindfolded and went on walk around the town with other guide dog users, to see the

tasks they face on a busy day in the town. They also told the MP their struggles with cars parking on pavements and using public transport.

He paid tribute to the guide dog users, and said he will help in any way they can.

He said: "It is not something I have done before, but it is good to come out and meet these people and see what they struggle with."

"I am an advocate of the charity and we have a lot of campaign groups coming to Westminster.

If anyone else in the North Shropshire area has issues they can write to me."

Mr Paterson went through some basic sight activities to see how blind people go about their daily work.

Then he went from Bailey Head, down Bailey Street and around the town.

Lyn Stapley, from Oswestry, is the group fundraising co-ordinator, and has had two guide dogs.



Owen Paterson puts a blindfold on for the town centre challenge

She wants people to be more considerate and aware of blind people and issues they face in busy town centres.

She said: "The guide dogs are such a big help, but there are other issues we also need to tackle."

"Parking on pavements is a real problem, and also we would ask other people to think about signage outside shops and in the town centre."

Fashion show raises cash for unit in a stylish way



The village institute was busy with supporters



Models of all ages turned on the style



There were plenty of smiles at the fashion show

Report by Jonny Drury

A FASHION show has raised more than £600 for a bone cancer unit.

Angela Bright has been raising money for the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital bone cancer unit for years, in memory of her son Byron who died 25 years ago.

She has so far raised thousands of pounds and at Weston Rhyn Institute she raised another £670 for the cause.

Mrs Bright raised the money through a raffle and tickets for entry and was overwhelmed for the support.

She said: "It was absolutely fantastic, I was so pleased to raise so much money. I have been trying to thank everyone and it is fantastic we have been able to raise this money." Mrs Bright has been raising money for research into the disease, and has long been a supporter of the Gobowen based hospital. She has held a number of events in the past, including art exhibitions, sales, and even held a scarecrow event last year near her home.

She said she was thrilled at the support the latest event attracted.

Meanwhile, an Edwardian evening is being held at Weston Rhyn Institute on September 22 to celebrate 110 years since it was opened in 1908.

People can go along and see authentic Edwardian costumes made by Wrexham Heritage Sewing Circle and learn about the life of an Edwardian, and see what would have been worn when the hall was built. There will be a fashion show, along with wine and cheese and tickets for the event are £7.



Fashion ideas were on show at the event



People of all ages supported the fundraising event



One of the models gives a twirl at the fundraising fashion show



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16 Parking plan at rail station is scrapped

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, September 6, 2018

CONTROVERSIAL plans to bring in car parking charges at a railway station that would have cost commuters £700 a year have been dropped.

Commuters and rail organisation bosses have welcomed the move by Shropshire Council to not press ahead with the charges at Gobowen Railway Station.

Currently the car park is free, and last summer plans were proposed to add charges to pay for the upkeep of the car park, which has about 100 spaces.

The station is widely used by travellers from the Oswestry area and Mid Wales. However following a consultation with residents, commuters and stakeholders, the plans have been binned. Sheila Dee, of the Chester Shrewsbury Rail Partnership, said the charges would have hit commuters hard and the U-turn has been welcomed.

She said: "It caused a great deal of concern locally, especially for commuters as it was found their travel bills could increase by about £700 per year. If people would have had to pay to park there, the cars would have spilled out on to nearby streets which I am sure would have caused even more problems. Also the station brings in revenue for businesses nearby. It is a popular station, people move here and use the station to commute to Chester and the Midlands."

Application is put in for new housing

A PLANNING application has been submitted to build 34 homes in a North Shropshire village.

Shingler Homes, based in Shrewsbury, has lodged the application with Shropshire Council to develop homes on land south east of Whittington Primary School, on Station Road.

As part of the application, developers will also build an open space area and a community parking area. It will be discussed by the council's planning committee later this year. In a design and access statement, the developers said that the scheme is in line with the development plan and the national planning policy framework.

Developers have also stated that it will provide a "sustainable form of development with a layout/design/materials which contribute to the character and setting of the village and respect the setting of the existing built development within the village".

They also say in their statement that they will bring quality built development to the village, and access will be from the B5009. All the homes will be two storey in height, "to maintain the grain of the existing properties in the village". The development has been met with some objections, with letters posted on the online planning portal. One local resident said a number of issues needed to be addressed on the development, and said the car park which is being proposed would erode into the nearby open space.

Coach firm to stop services

EASYCOACH has stopped running bus services in the county, with its owner claiming the business had been the target of sabotage.

Andrew Martin set up the easyCoach service, which provided airport runs and local bus routes, in January 2017, but has announced he is stopping the services on Sunday.

Mr Martin, who has suffered a serious illness in recent weeks, said he had taken the decision because "certain individuals had been out to sabotage the business".

He said: "They have escalated their action over recent weeks and certain incidents have been reported to the police. The safety of the general public, passengers and staff has always been of paramount importance to me. No expense has been spared in the maintenance of our vehicles." Mr Martin set up the franchise Skiers Lodge Limited, operating under the name of easyCoach, to take people to Manchester Airport from stops at Telford, Shrewsbury and Oswestry – charging £2.

The business was run from a unit in Harlescott.

Civil society organisations set out calls for Welsh government to be more transparent

Report by Jonny Drury

This is only the second time the process has happened in Wales – and the first which has truly engaged civil society.

The suggested commitments have been generated from an online consultation, where users submitted their ideas for changes that would bring people and politics closer together.

The Manifesto for Open Government includes the introduction of participatory budgeting at a national and local government level, where people are able to vote on how budgets are spent. The manifesto calls for more transparent procurement processes by publishing a detailed list of funds awarded and the use of

more videos, images and infographics on Welsh Government websites. It also calls for better use of social media channels to reach a wider section of the public and more frequent and more accessible publication of the data Welsh Government holds. Jess Blair, director of ERS Cymru and a coordinator of the Open Government Network in Wales, said: "Later this year the Welsh Government will publish a new set of commitments around transparency and accountability. This manifesto sets out how Welsh government can open up – to let the light in and give voters a stronger voice.

"Other countries around the world have used these action plans to rebuild trust in politics – something that is more crucial than ever. From participatory budgeting to more transparent

procurement rules, we can use these proposals to shape a better democracy, and give people a say in how decisions are made beyond the ballot box. Wales has its chance here to lead the world in open democracy, and to close the gap between people and the politicians.

"We hope that ministers and civil servants alike take our recommendations seriously. It is vital that civil society has a say in how Welsh politics can work better for the people of Wales"

Ruth Marks, chief executive of WCVA, who lead the Open Government Pioneers Project in Wales, said: "Wales has led the way in more open government, but we now risk going backwards if we don't renew our commitment to more transparent and accountable government."

Man, 30, died after he was struck by car, inquest told

Report by Deborah Hardiman

THE mother of an Oswestry man who died after he was struck by a car said she feels let down by the inquest.

Jake Adrian Thomas, 30, died following the collision with a Toyota at Gobowen roundabout at about 9.30pm on April 16.

He was walking home to Oswestry after a visit to Wrexham.

Mr Thomas, of Roff Street, died at the scene. Giving evidence Toyota driver Kelly Rogers said she had dropped off friends in Oswestry and was returning home to Bangor-on-Dee when the incident happened.

Under cross examination by Shropshire Coroner John Ellery she said nothing was distracting her driving and the first she saw of Mr Thomas was in her headlights.

In a statement read at the inquest another driver, Hayley Bradley, said that she was driving towards Gobowen when a man, who had been walking on the grass, went into the road "like a goalkeeper diving to his side" and she had to swerve to avoid him.

Injuries

The cause of death was multiple injuries consistent with being hit by a car.

A post mortem report also stated that Mr Thomas had prescribed medication including methadone in his system.

Mr Ellery said: "The evidence I have is Mrs Rogers was travelling on the correct side of the road and, from the evidence I have seen, couldn't have avoided the collision.

"How Jake entered the road in front of her front passenger side, I don't know. I'm not going to speculate, but he did. He entered the road in the path of Mrs Rogers and she could not avoid hitting him."

He recorded a conclusion of death by road traffic collision.

Following the hearing, held in Shrewsbury, Mr Thomas's mother Elizabeth Weager said she felt "utterly disgusted" at the way the case had been handled.

Mrs Weager, of Aberystwyth, said: "There have been many flaws and I feel a lot of relevant issues have been overlooked and not taken into consideration following the collision.

"I am very disappointed with the outcome."

"The loss of Jake has affected myself and his younger brother very deeply.

"We struggle to accept Jake is no longer with us. We miss him terribly."

Heartbreak Hill – a beer to really cry into



Brewer Ynyr Evans and food festival committee member Pip Gale try Heartbreak Hill

WALES'S most famous – and saddest – love song has inspired a new beer.

The song Myfanwy tells the tragic story of the unrequited love of a penniless young poet called Hywel ab Einion for a beautiful young noblewoman who lived in Dinas Bran castle high above Llangollen in the 14th century.

The new brew, being unveiled at Llangollen Food Festival later this year, is called Heartbreak Hill – a tribute to Hywel's spurned pas-

sion. It was the brainchild of Ynyr Evans, head brewer at Llangollen Brewery, who was moved by Hywel's response to being rejected by the woman who had captured his heart. The brewery makes 1,000 gallons of beer a week sold in pubs across North Wales and the North West.

Mr Evans said Myfanwy was the daughter of the Norman Earl of Arundel, and described as the "the most beautiful woman in Powys".

"Hywel believed she had fallen in love with

him because while he was playing and complimenting her on her beauty she could neither listen nor look at any other man. His hopes were dashed when a richer, more handsome and more eloquent lover came along."

"As well as launching Heartbreak Hill on our stand at the food festival, we'll also put it into local pubs to see what people think of it."

To find out more visit llangollenfoodfestival.com

Sites taking part in huge celebration of heritage

VARIOUS buildings and sites around the Oswestry and Welshpool areas are taking part in this year's Heritage Open Days programme.

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture. Among the events is a Battle of Crogen battlefield tour at Castle Mill, Brongarth, Chirk, on Sunday at 3pm. Oswestry Library, will host a talk by astronomer Pete Williamson about the moon landings on Thursday next week and there will be Extraordinary Women poetry events at the library next week too.

Oswestry Memorial Hall is hosting a Wall of Women exhibition celebrating 101 women connected to Oswestry, and is open from 10am to 4pm on Thursday to Sunday next week. There will be a talk by Barbara Andrews, grand-daughter of suffragette Thirza Cove, on September 14 at 6pm.

A whole host of events is being held at Oswestry Visitor Centre. Contact the centre to find out more about the events including Wilfred Owen talks, a 17th century musketeer talk, a talk on the Siege of Oswestry and 17th

century costumed characters. Oswestry Town Museum has various events lined up too including a talk about the Wilfred Owen Festival, a talk on Girl Power in the Iron Age, a talk on Llanfyllin Workhouse and social deprivation through the ages, the Gilbert and Gordon story, a Museum On The Air amateur radio event, a Sword in the Stone Challenge and a talk on the Battle of Crogen.

Others sites involved in this year's Heritage Open Days include the Tanat Valley Light Railway, the Hermon Chapel and Gobowen Cen-

tral Community Hub. Kinokulture cinema in Arthur Street, Oswestry, will be showing films with an Oswestry theme.

Other sites involved in the celebration include The Orangery Restaurant at Derwen College, St Michael's Church, Llanyblodwel, Llanymynech Lineworks, Llanymynech Wharf Visitor Centre, Whittington Castle, St Oswald's Church, Oswestry, St Peter's Church, Melverley, Powis Castle and Garden, Welshpool, and Llanfyllin Workhouse. Contact the sites directly for details about what they have planned.

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- Chicken liver parfait, chutney, toast (gf*) £6.00
- King prawn and avocado cocktail, Marie Rose sauce, buttered bread (gf*) £6.00
- Goat's cheesecake, walnut, onion marmalade (v) £6.00
- * Sliced melon, fresh raspberries, Parma ham (gf) £5.50
- * Salt & pepper squid, burnt shallot mayo (gf) £6.00
- * Tomato, mozzarella and chorizo bruschetta, pesto dressing (gf*) £5.50

MAIN

- * Roast rump of beef, roast potatoes, roasted vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, jus £11.95
- * Roast loin of pork, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables, apple sauce, sauerkraut, jus (gf*) £11.95
- * Spring vegetable risotto, parmesan crumb (v*/gf) £10.00
- Grilled chicken salad, crispy egg, parmesan, aioli (gf*) £9.00
- * Seabass, crushed new, spinach, lemon & caper oil, grilled asparagus (gf) £14.00
- Burger menu (please ask to see our menu)

DESSERT *(All £6.00)*

- * Affogato, liquor 43, espresso & ice cream (v)
- Chocolate fondant, caramel ice cream
- * Banoffee mess, banana, toffee, cream, chocolate (v/gf*)
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Jodie with the wild macaques

Jodie talks to schoolchildren

Jade loved working at the baboon sanctuary

Macaque-mad Jodie at Dudley

Zoo keepers helping to save rare species

Staff going the extra mile to help safeguard rare wildlife from extinction around the globe talk to HEATHER LARGE about some of the projects

For dedicated zoo keepers Jodie Dryden and Jade Reddall wildlife conservation goes much further than just looking after the animals in their care.

Along with the rest of the team at Dudley Zoo they are playing their part in helping to save threatened and endangered species from extinction.

Every year the zoo supports a range of projects across the globe that are working to protect habitats, raise awareness and educate the younger generations.

Macaque-mad Jodie and baboon-crazy Jade have both travelled overseas to spend time lending a hand to teams who are working with primates in the wild.

Jodie has been involved with Selamatkan Yaki, a project working out in Indonesia to protect the critically endangered Sulawesi crested black macaque – a species held by Dudley Zoo – for five years.

The 28-year-old, who is the UK regional co-ordinator for the scheme, has spent two months in Indonesia working with the primates in the field.

"I love macaques. They are mischievous, to say the least, and they've got really expressive faces. I love the loud call the males make – it's my favourite noise. They've got so many vocalisations.

"They have heart-shaped bottoms especially when they are young. The mothers are really attentive and the babies are ugly cute. I love everything about them," Jodie tells us.

The zoo has pledged to support Selamatkan Yaki for the next five years and is backing their vital outreach efforts by helping them purchase new information tents, display stands and boards, as well as educational materials, wristbands and stickers.

This is to aid their engagement work with local Indonesian communities about the importance of protecting habitats and conserving macaques in the wild.

Numbers of the old world monkey species, who are only found on the island of Sulawesi, have reduced by 90 per cent over the last three decades, with major threats including extensive habitat loss due to farming and deforestation, as

well as the illegal bush meat trade and pet trade. The macaque, known in the local language as 'yaki' also form part of the local indigenous community's diet.

A lot of Jodie's work with the project is education and raising awareness by giving talks and presentations to local youngsters in schools and colleges to help educate them about the threats the species faces.

"The macaques are critically endangered. Children are the next generation of hunters so it's important to talk them about why they should want to protect the macaques and not hunt or eat them.

"Then hopefully they will go home and tell their family that they don't want to eat macaque any more. It's a bit like if your child comes home and says they're not going to eat chicken then you will probably buy it less.

Traditions

"It's hard telling people they can't eat something when it's a tradition to do so, it's like telling someone they can't have turkey at Christmas but hopefully through education we can change opinions and make more people want to save them," explains Jodie.

Jodie has also helped with surveying macaques in the rainforest in The Tangkoko Nature Reserve and said she was blown away when she first saw them in the wild.

"It was weird being surrounded by a group of 100 macaques – part of me wanted to say 'they've escaped' but I know they are in the right place," says Jodie, who last travelled to Indonesia in 2016 and previously worked at Drusillas Park in East Sussex.

While three years ago Jade saw her dream to work with baboons in their natural habitat become a reality when spent four weeks at C.A.R.E (Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education) in South Africa.

"It was working with the Gelada baboons that made me want to go to South Africa to work at a baboon sanctuary. They are so unique because they are the only grazing primate. They live on steep mountains in Ethiopia and the females have hourglass-shaped skin patches on the chest," says the 28-year-old who has worked at the zoo for five years. She had spent a year

planning the trip to the centre and Dudley Zoo backed her, giving her paid leave and donating tools and stationery for her to take out there.

At any time an average of 450 baboons of varying ages are housed at the centre in large enclosures and most are released back into the wild after rehabilitation.

Most of the animals that arrive at C.A.R.E. are babies, orphaned after their mothers were shot, trapped, poisoned, or otherwise killed, usually by humans.

The team aims to release all rescued baboons back to the wild after rehabilitation as long as it's safe to do so.

While Jade was there she got to know the wild troop of approximately 65 baboons that inhabit areas around the centre and 12 orphaned babies that needed the team's care and attention.

As well as bottle feeding the youngsters, her duties included cleaning enclosures and giving enrichment for the troops and the few sanctuary baboons.

"It was amazing – I've wanted to go back ever since I got home. Seeing baboons in the wild was everything I had hoped and more.

"It's really nice to know that you are helping baboons so they can be released back into the wild," says senior primate keeper Jade who, in July 2014, was the first keeper to discover Billie – Dudley Zoo's first gelada baby in its 78-year history.

The zoo also supports a number of other conservation projects which includes an education programme in Madagascar run by the Lemur Conservation Association AEEL.

It is funding nine primary school teachers who are helping people to learn to protect their local habitats which in turn is helping conserve lemurs in the wild.

WildCats Conservation Alliance, helping big cats in Asia, and Red Panda Network, which is working to save their habitat, are among the other organisations that have benefited from fundraising at the attraction.

"The main reason zoos exist nowadays is for conservation and education and to help stop species from going to extinct so it's a very important part of what we do here," says Jodie.

"We do zoo-keeping because we love looking after our animals here but we always want to help those out in the wild too," adds Jade.

Bear cheek of lovable glove puppet



Richard Cadell with Sooty, Sweep and Soo

BELOVED British puppet Sooty celebrated his 70th birthday recently, ahead of a magical trip to the West Midlands later this year.

The little yellow glove puppet, who was discovered in a Blackpool joke shop by actor and comedian Harry Corbett on July 19 1948, will be taking to the stage in December for the pan-



Sooty at 70

tomime Sleeping Beauty.

Sooty's puppeteer, Richard Cadell, told how 'excited' they both were to play to be performing at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre, alongside Debbie McGee.

Richard said: "I came many years ago and I'm thrilled to be back.

"I haven't done pantomime with Sooty

By Megan Archer

for a very long time so this is very exciting for us. The Grand is a beautiful and wonderful theatre.

"Sooty is known for his magic, he's a member of the Magic Circle, and we're going to be doing some big Las Vegas illusions.

"It's going to be mind blowing, and with Debbie McGee in the show too, it will have so much magic – some of which has never even been seen in this country before.

"It's really going to be a knockout."

Richard said the love for the small bear just got stronger over the years.

He added: "It's just incredible, how much love there is for the Sooty Show.

"It's not just a kids show, adults love it too.

"It's great it's still going.

"We've just finished a brand new series for ITV. The longer Sooty survives the more popular he becomes.

"It's just monumental to have this 70th birthday in the middle of everything that's already going on – it brings everything together."

Sooty, who possesses a mischievous character and loves playing practical jokes, is renowned for his tricks for which he uses special 'ooft' dust to sprinkle on the magic.

The puppet's birthday was being celebrated with the unveiling of a new plaque at the joke shop from where he was first purchased back in 1948.

Sleeping Beauty will be appearing on stage at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre from December 8 this year to January 13 2019.

As well as Richard and Sooty, it also stars Strictly Come Dancing star Debbie McGee, the wife of late magician Paul Daniels, and Black Country panto favourites Doreen Tip-ton and Ian Adams.

Visit grandtheatre.co.uk for details.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE



NEWS

BURIAL MOUNDS

We take a look inside the newly-completed burial mounds in Wem – the first built in Shropshire in the last 5,000 years.

OUTDOORS

The house martin population is facing a crisis in Shropshire, says environment columnist Phil Moore.

EVENTS

Sir Michael Parkinson, Big Country, and the first ever comedy night hosted by Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust.

FOOD

Bake Off is back, so what better excuse is there to break out the cakes?



REVIEWS

The best places to eat, the picks of what's on television, films heading to Shropshire cinemas, and another great day out comes under the microscope.

PLUS DAN NIGHTINGALE | WALKS
MECHANICAL GLOVES | PROPERTY
SWEET SHOPS | THE CHARLESTON
MICHELLE OWEN | HOSPITALS |
BREXIT | ROBOTS IN FARMING
PSEUDOSCORPIONS | CINEMA

ON SALE FRIDAY

Former public house is now large detached home

A former public house having bed and breakfast potential, Tontine Inn on Church Lane, Molverley, Oswestry is now a large detached seven en-suite bedroomed home.

Being spacious and well maintained in a pleasant location, it is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole now at £418,000 with no chain. It has been recently upgraded to become a spacious family home. Having oil fired central heating and double glazing throughout, it includes a large sun room, an open-plan living/ dining room with an impressive fireplace, seven first floor bedrooms all with en-suite bathrooms or shower facilities. There is also a fitted kitchen, a guest lounge and ancillary ground floor toilets and stores.

The grounds provide ample parking and a range of useful detached stores/workshop or garage.

A spokesman for the selling agent said: "The current internal accommodation has been recently up-graded to afford a spacious family home or offers an opportunity for bed and breakfast from guest bedrooms and a ground floor lounge."

Molverley is popular with tourists, being both on a long distance footpath and national cycle trail.

The seven first floor bedrooms all have en-suite bathroom or shower facilities to a good standard. A further "lounge and kitchen" are set on the first floor and an external staircase approach is available off the drive approach.

The grounds are well defined and afford a range of useful detached stores/workshop or garages, extensive paved patio area adjoining the sun room and a further substantial hard-standing area capable of further landscaping to afford an attractive garden if so desired.

"An inspection of this individual property is strongly advised to appreciate the space and quality of the existing accommodation and also the potential to offer an alternative use for parts of the property," added the spokesman for the selling agent.

KEY FEATURES

- Former public house
- Bed & breakfast potential
- Spacious
- Seven bedrooms
- Pleasant location

MELVERLEY £418,000



TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

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17th century home offers highly flexible accommodation

HOPE
£725,000

Little Hope, at Hope, Leighton near Welshpool is a 17th century cottage that has undergone a large extension.

Currently run as a bed and breakfast business, its flexible layout means it also provides for two co-habiting families, with separate quarters. In a design which flows with exceptional clarity and focus as a property with an option for two halves, it is for sale through Balfours at £725,000.

The main cottage comprises a porch, a large sitting room with an inglenook fireplace, woodburner and French doors. Adjacent is the library with glazing and views to two aspects and the study – a cosy hideaway. The morning room is the central point of the ground floor from which the stairs ascend to three bedrooms and a family bathroom. Beyond the morning room, the dining room is partially open plan to the kitchen, achieving a fabulous social space



with sleek contemporary fixtures in the kitchen. A second study, cloakroom/WC and utility complete the ground floor accommodation.

Duncan Scobie of Balfours, said: "Evelyn and Mike Gregory have nurtured Little Hope to create a fresh and spacious home, together with a highly successful bed and breakfast business. The latter is run as Long Mountain Bed and Breakfast, which has received many awards and certificates of excellence, from Visit Wales and Trip Adviser. The guest accommodation reflects this, it provides three spacious double bedrooms, one with an en-suite bathroom and the other two with en-suite shower rooms. A large guest dining/lounge spanning nearly six metres square and an independent guest kitchen allow the guest accommodation to be run totally separately; or for an extended family to enjoy."

Contact Balfours on 01743 353511.



Stunning farmhouse enjoys superb views over valley

LLANRHAEADR
£400,000 >>>

Clynog, Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant near Oswestry is a stunning Grade II listed farmhouse in an elevated position.

It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £400,000.

The property is situated on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant close to the confluence of the rivers Tanat and Rhaeadr in the stunning Berwyn Mountains and near Pistyll Rhaeadr.

The property has a reception hall, music room, sitting room, dining room, kitchen lounge, kitchen, utility room, rear lobby, coal house, gallery landing, a loft storage room, integral garage, gun room, five first floor bedrooms, a family bathroom, five attic rooms, large gardens and an orchard/paddock.

Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 for more details about the home or to arrange a viewing.



Detached house with valley views comes with a large decked area

GARTH
£374,950 <<<

An individual detached house with valley views and first floor open plan living, Tyn-Y-Pistyll at Garth, Glyn Ceiriog, comes with a large timber decked area, landscaped gardens and woodland.

It is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £374,950. Briefly the property comes with three bedrooms, a shower room and a bathroom.

A turning timber-built staircase rises up from the entrance hall to the upper level lobby with a tiled floor and external door to the rear.

Access leads through to the living area which has a multi-fuel stove fitted to the slate built fireplace, being dual aspect with a large picture window to the rear and concealed radiators. An open plan approach leads through to the dining/kitchen.

Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 for more information.



Home occupies cul-de-sac position in village

PANT
£350,000

<<<

Occupying a quiet elevated cul-de-sac position within the village of Pant near Oswestry, 3 Edwards Close is convenient for local facilities such as modern primary school, post office and shop, pub and renowned golf club.

3 Edwards Close is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £350,000.

The home is an individually designed detached four bedroomed house.

The property has a spacious entrance hall, living room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, utility and cloakroom. The master bedroom is ensuite and there are three further bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property has a double garage and ample parking.

For more details about the property contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437.



House has abundance of superb features

OSWESTRY
£425,000

Appeal exudes from this charming Grade II listed house in Oswestry town centre.

This flexi four or six bedroom home, with or without a self-contained flat, has an abundance of features. The entrance hall of Ty Gwyn, 57 Willow Street, opens to a sitting room and library. These are two of the three reception rooms, each with feature fireplace.

The sitting room with open timber frame reveals the staircase behind.

Ty Gwyn, is marketed with a guide price of £425,000 by Balfours.

For more information about the property people can call Balfours on 01743 353511.



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Celebrations as pet store gets £1m makeover

PET retailer Just for Pets has given its Telford store a complete makeover as part of a £1 million investment plan.

Coming just 10 months on from when the pet business was threatened with closure, Just for Pets has worked closely with its customers to gather research to be able to carry out the makeover.

To celebrate, a family day took place at the store on Saturday.

It included face painting, competitions and free exotic animal talks and handling.

Telford store manager Richard Coyne said: "At a time when so many high street retailers are finding it difficult, it's so exciting to be benefiting from an investment like this and to be able to improve the quality of service we can give to our customers, old and new."

"We're all so excited by the new branding and the improvements Just for Pets is making and we're sure customers will be just as pleased."

"We are so extremely grateful to our customers who supported us through our transition period and we can't wait to welcome them and show them all the hard work that's gone into the new store at our relaunch event."

The rebrand is being rolled out in a phased approach across Just for Pets 16 stores, with launch events at each, and Telford is only the third in the country to benefit so far.

Other Just for Pets stores are located in Derbyshire, Worcestershire, Cambridgeshire, Nuneaton and Wolverhampton.

Richard added: "Due to the investment we've seen in staff training, we also feel we're now even better equipped to engage with consumers on the subject of pet care and wellbeing and therefore be able to provide an even more valuable service for all of our pet-loving customers."

The rebrand also sees the roll-out of a suite of new visuals, including a dedicated palette of colours to enhance the shopping experience, a refreshed logo and even the introduction of a family of illustrated characters to engage children and parents.

Water firm wins gold medal for stylish bottle

SOUTH Shropshire-based premium water brand Wenlock Spring has picked up an award.

Its 500ml Still rPET bottle received gold in the Packaging and Design category at the British Bottlers' Institute Awards (BBI).

The new Strata bottle design has just been launched in the hospitality sector. The bottle was judged by an expert panel of industry experts, who assessed the style and design of the label.

The design on the bottle represents a cross section of the rock strata of the Wenlock Edge.

Wenlock Spring, which is based near Church Stretton, is switching to making its bottles from up to 51 per cent recycled plastic.

Matthew Orme, director of Wenlock Spring, said: "This is a crucial time for the drinks industry, as plastic continues to play front and centre in consumer's minds, increasingly influencing their buying decisions."

"We are delighted to receive official recognition for our new bottle design as we have worked hard to ensure it reflects our dedication to sustainability and strong environmentally friendly ethos."

"This award is a brilliant achievement for all those involved."

This is the sixth year that Wenlock Spring has won multiple awards at the BBI awards.

The firm has also been shortlisted as a finalist in the Midlands Best Rural Drink Business for 2018/19.

The firm will be displaying its wares at the Ludlow Food Festival from September 7-9.

Wenlock Spring, which bottles premium still and sparkling spring water, was the only British water firm to win a medal at the first ever international edition of the Gourmet Water Contest.

It won a bronze medal for its sparkling water competing against 50 waters from over 20 countries.

Sparks of collaboration for county firms



Paul Morrison, Paul Evans, centre, and Mark Saunders

AN engineering company has praised the convenience and practicality of working with other businesses in the county.

GKN Wheels & Structures in Telford has won a significant new contract for vehicle chassis manufacture and has turned to fellow Telford business, Shropshire Welding Supplies, of Stafford Park, to supply specialist welding machines in a deal worth around £40,000.

Project leader for GKN Wheels & Structures, Paul Evans, said: "We have just taken delivery of 12 new ESAB

Warrior 400 MIG sets, to replace several four-year-old units originally bought from Shropshire Welding Supplies."

"The previous machines have provided sterling service but these new ones are the very latest inverter technology and therefore highly energy efficient which is very important, and will be used in the manufacture of chassis modules here in Telford for the latest major contract that we have just won."

"The benefits of dealing with local companies are many and ensures that we create a good

working relationship with our suppliers and in return, they are always on hand for regular servicing or if unexpected maintenance help is ever needed."

Mark Saunders, director at Shropshire Welding Supplies, said: "We are delighted to have been working with GKN for over two decades and are Platinum Distributors for global company ESAB who make the welding machines, so we have the experience and expertise to be able to offer full confidence and essential customer support to large firms, such as GKN Wheels & Structures."

Countdown begins for business grant funding

BUSINESS LATEST

By James Pugh

BUSINESSES looking to revamp their buildings to facilitate growth are being urged to take advantage of a grant scheme as soon as possible in order to complete their build projects before its conclusion in June 2019.

The Marches Building Investment Grant (MBIG) allows businesses across the region to apply for grants of up to £100,000 to facilitate extensions, renovations or reconfigurations that support business growth and create jobs.

It was launched in 2017 with support from the European Regional Development Fund and the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

To date, the scheme has awarded businesses across the region £750,000 but with all projects needing to be completed with the next 12 months, programme manager Caroline Cattle is urging any business owner who is yet to progress their application to avoid further delay.

She said: "The tangible difference that this scheme can make to businesses across Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin has already been proven. Manufacturing sites have been extended; showrooms have been reconfigured; and warehouses have been transformed."

"Importantly, new jobs have been created with many more safeguarded for the region. It was always our aim that this scheme should create 130 new jobs and we're already half-way to that figure. However, the terms of the scheme are such that all supported building work must be completed by June 2019."

"That makes now the ideal time to get an application in so that all the necessary paperwork, planning and construction can be realised in good time."

The Marches Building Investment Grant (MBIG) awards up to 45 per cent of the total project costs (to a maximum £100,000) with funds intended to cover costs directly associated with the conversion or alteration of a building. The money cannot be used towards the cost of purchasing the property, equipment, or 'excessive' landscaping, nor can applications be made retrospectively.

Caroline added: "Businesses still stand to benefit from a significant funding pot, but they do need to act quickly to take advantage of this in order to meet the terms of the scheme and ensure that any private-sector match funding is also in place."

"Full details of eligibility can be found by contacting Caroline on mbig@herefordshire.gov.uk or calling the Marches Growth Hub team on 0345 6000 727."



Businesses are urged to get their applications in for grant funding for building revamps as soon as possible

Wedding venue with seven bedrooms comes onto market



The main property dates back to the 18th century

A WEDDING venue with bed and breakfast accommodation and planning permission for further expansion has gone up for sale.

Elm Lodge in Fishmore, Ludlow, is brought to the market by Halls Commercial and offers a seven-bedroom family home surrounded by 13.7 acres of land.

There are currently six lettings rooms used successfully as a bed and breakfast business, with the disused golf course having planning permission for 12 holiday pods to be built.

James Evans, from Halls, said: "Elm Lodge is a very unique property, so we are expecting a lot of interest as sites like this simply don't come onto

the market very often. It's a fantastic business opportunity - it's already established as a beautiful wedding venue for couples from Shropshire and beyond, with bed and breakfast accommodation not only for wedding guests but for holiday-makers too."

"The fact it's just a mile down the road from the vibrant and thriving town of Ludlow makes it even more popular for people looking for a short break too."

"An investor also has the exciting opportunity of progressing the plans to build 12 holiday pods on the former golf course - with the added bonus of being able to live on-site in the stunning Georgian home."

The main property itself dates back to the 18th century with plenty of historic features intact, four reception rooms, seven bedrooms and three floors of accommodation. Attached to this but with their own separate entrance are three letting rooms.

And the separate Coach House building includes three further lettings room and a golf shop and offices.

There is also a further planning application for 12 log cabins in the commercial yard area, which is subject to approval.

Visit elm-lodge.org.uk/ for more information about the business. To arrange a viewing, email james.evans@hallsbg.com or call 01743 450700.

END OF *summer deals*

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Shropshire
STAR

Three in one Blower Vacuum & Shredder

Only £39.99 was ~~£79.99~~ plus **£4.95 p&p**

Remove, collect and shred unwanted leaf and garden debris. The powerful 3000W motor will clear garden debris and the 45-litre collection bag means there's no mess to sweep up plus the mulching function means the contents are ready for composting straight from the bag. It is easy to use and comes with a secure harness plus there are two wheels to help distribute the weight and allow for longer use. Dimensions: L34 x W14 x H120cm. Weight: 3kg

Code: G2016



**SAVE
£40**



Garden Kneeler

Only £18.99 was ~~£44.99~~ plus **£3.95 p&p**

It features a handy pouch with three pockets to keep tools to hand, and when flipped over becomes a comfortable seat or sturdy stool. The durable frame is constructed from high-quality steel and the kneeling pad has a deep layer of polypropylene foam for complete comfort. Measures H49 x W59 x L27cm and folds to H12 x W59 x L27cm.

Code: G0999



Electric Weed Burner

Only £34.99 was ~~£59.99~~ plus **£4.95 p&p**

Control weeds without chemicals, this burner emits bursts of heat, killing plant cells from root to tip without flames. With two temperature settings, the directive cone gives you quick, accurate weed management. With the retractable stand, you can stand the weed burner off the ground when it's hot and protect it from getting damaged. The clever compact design also features a removable handle for easy storage. Measures L101 x W8 x D10cm.

Code: G2350



75L Garden Cart

Only £59.99 was ~~£99.99~~ plus **£9.95 p&p***

This sturdy cart can transport loads up to 250kg, and has a 75-litre capacity. The handle has a rubberised grip for added comfort. Requires some self-assembly. Featuring puncture proof pneumatic wheels, the four-wheel design helps to spread the weight evenly across the cart, for maximum efficiency. Measures: tray L93 x W50 x H21cm, cart L98 x W50 x H96.5cm. Weighs: 13.4kg.

Code: G2683

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September 8



Impossible Celebrities

5.55pm

Star-studded version of the quiz in which 18 famous contestants including Debbie McGee, Imran Yusuf and Jorgie Porter compete for the chance to win money for their chosen charity.



Spotlight

9pm

Premiere. A team of investigative reporters for a Boston newspaper investigate reports of children being molested within the Catholic church. Drama, starring Mark Ruffalo.



The X Factor

8.30pm

The audition rounds continue, hosted by Dermot O'Leary, with judges Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell deciding who goes through.



Britain at Low Tide

7pm

Tori Herridge highlights more of Britain's maritime history via state-of-the-art technology, beginning with an 18th-century shipwreck found off the East Sussex coast.



Brunel's Britain: King of the Sea

8pm

Rob Bell concludes his two-part documentary series by telling the story of Brunel's two masterpieces of ship design.

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
- 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live.** Matt Tebbutt is joined by guest Matt Goss and chefs Yotam Ottolenghi and Ching-He Huang. Oly Smith selects the perfect wine to accompany the dishes prepared in the studio.
- 11.30 Nadiya's Family Favourites.** Nadiya Hussain makes dishes for unexpected guests, including radish ceviche with avocado and toasted sourdough, and wheat escalopes with hazelnut mash and pink pickled onions. (R)
- 12.00 Football Focus.** Dan Walker and guests look ahead to the weekend's football, which is dominated by international games, including England's first outing since the World Cup against Spain at Wembley.
- 12.30 Bargain Hunt.** Tim Wonnacott visits Builth Wells, where he challenges two teams of students to pick up bargains at the biannual antiques fair to sell at auction in Mold. (R)
- 1.00 BBC News; Weather.**
- 1.15 Great North CityGames.** Gabby Logan presents coverage from the NewcastleGateshead Quayside, as some of the world's best athletes compete in both track and field events in the heart of the city.
- 3.45 Money for Nothing.** Experts transform and then sell three things about to be dumped at a tip, before giving the profits to the people who were getting rid of the items. (R)
- 4.15 FILM: Brave (2012).** A princess uses magic to avoid an arranged marriage, but the spell has disastrous repercussions. Animated fantasy, with the voices of Kelly Macdonald and Emma Thompson.
- 5.40 BBC News.**
- 5.50 Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 5.55 Impossible Celebrities.** Star-studded version of the quiz in which 18 famous contestants including Debbie McGee, Dick and Dom, Imran Yusuf, Liz Carr and Jorgie Porter.
- 6.45 Pointless Celebrities.** An EastEnders edition of the general knowledge quiz with contestants including Natalie Cassidy, Dean Gaffney, Perry Fenwick, Emma Barton, and Lisa Hammond.
- 7.35 Strictly Come Dancing Launch Show 2018.** New series. The pro-celebrity ballroom contest hosted by Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman returns, with a line-up featuring the likes of Ashley Roberts, Graeme Swann and Katie Piper.
- 9.00 Last Night of the Proms.** The classical music celebration continues live from the Royal Albert Hall, featuring the familiar and rousing close of Rule, Britannia!, Land of Hope and Glory and Jerusalem.
- 10.35 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update.**
- 10.55 The NFL Show.** Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to present highlights of the opening weekend of fixtures, including Green Bay Packers v Chicago Bears.
- 11.25 FILM: The Client (1994).** Courtroom thriller, starring Susan Sarandon.
- 1.20 Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 1.25 BBC News.**

BBC2

- 6.40 Top Class.** (R)
- 7.05 Marrying Mum and Dad.** Harry and Lilly conjure up a spellbinding extravaganza for their two mothers. (R)
- 7.35 Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers.** Fascinating records and facts from around the world. (R)
- 8.05 The Dengineers.** Mark Wright and Lauren Layfield build a kitchen hangout. (R)
- 8.35 Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom.** The work of rocket scientist Wernher von Braun. (R)
- 9.05 Planet Dinosaur.** Creatures that blur the boundaries between dinosaurs and birds. (R)
- 9.35 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities.** (R)
- 10.00 Nature's Miracle Babies.** A tiny wallaby in need of a foster mother. (R)
- 11.00 Natural World: The Last Grizzly of Paradise Valley.** Jeff Turner searches for grizzly bears in Canada's Cascade Mountains. (R)
- 12.00 Nigel Slater: Eating Together.** Three one-pot dishes with origins in Iran, Brazil and Bangladesh. (R)
- 12.30 Great British Menu.** The first of the Central region heats. (R)
- 1.00 Great British Menu.** The three Central region chefs fight it out for the fish course. (R)
- 1.30 Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food.** Recipes inspired by beer gardens and barbecues. (R)
- 2.00 Homes Under the Hammer.** Properties in Nottinghamshire, London and Staffordshire. (R)
- 3.00 Wanted Down Under.** Steve and Deborah Baigent consider a new life in Adelaide. (R)
- 3.45 Scrappers – Back in the Yard.** Terry and Lyndsay plan a role swap at work. (R)
- 4.15 Saving Lives at Sea.** A sudden storm leaves one crew fighting for their own survival. (R)
- 5.15 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor.** Michael Mosley finds out why learning a new language can help stave off dementia. (R)
- 5.45 Ancient Invisible Cities.** The historical secrets of Cairo and Ancient Egypt. (R)
- 6.45 Dad's Army.** Mainwaring tries to talk Frazer into depositing his hoard of gold sovereigns in a safe place – his own bank. Vintage comedy, with Arthur Lowe and John Laurie. (R)
- 7.15 Last Night of the Proms.** The season comes to a close with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and former chief conductor Andrew Davis steering proceedings live from the Royal Albert Hall. Presented by Katie Derham.
- 9.00 FILM: Spotlight (2015).** Premiere. A team of journalists investigates a conspiracy to cover up child abuse in the Catholic church. Oscar-winning fact-based drama, starring Mark Ruffalo and Michael Keaton.
- 11.00 FILM: Drive (2011).** A stuntman-turned-getaway driver tries to protect a criminal's family, only to get drawn into a conflict with the Mafia. Crime drama, starring Ryan Gosling and Carey Mulligan.
- 12.35 Josh Widdicombe: What Do I Do Now.** (R)
- 1.35 This Is BBC2.**

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Dino Dana 6.10 Super 4 6.25 Super 4 6.35 Make It Pop 6.55 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.00 Cut the Rope: Om Nom Stories 7.05 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.15 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.30 ToonMarty 7.40 ToonMarty 7.55 Thunderbirds Are Go**
- 8.25 ITV News.**
- 8.30 Zoe Ball on Saturday.** Zoe is joined by guests Joe Wicks and Jess Glynne, who will also be performing live in the studio.
- 9.25 James Martin's Saturday Morning.** Featuring comedian Dave Gorman and chef Tony Tobin, and a menu of monkfish tandoori, fillet steak with tortellini, and cola cake.
- 11.35 £10k Holiday Home.** Julia Bradbury is informed that the Little Blue House must be rewired. (R)
- 12.10 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 12.25 The X Factor.** Dermot O'Leary hosts the second round of auditions, with Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams and Louis Tomlinson joining Simon Cowell on the judging panel. (R)
- 1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Haydock.** Ed Chamberlin and Francesca Cumani introduce coverage of this afternoon's meetings at Haydock Park, Kempton Park and Ascot, featuring eight races.
- 4.30 WOS Wrestling.** Crater continues to wreak havoc on the WOS arena and WOS Male Championship contenders push their claim to the title. Presented by Rachel Stringer.
- 5.30 ITV News and Weather.**
- 5.40 ITV News Central; Weather.**
- 5.50 FILM: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (2001).** An orphaned boy with magical powers enrolls at a special school for young wizards. First in the fantasy adventure series, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Alan Rickman and Richard Harris.
- 8.30 The X Factor.** The audition rounds continue in the talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary, with judges Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell deciding who goes through.
- 9.45 The Jonathan Ross Show.** The host is joined by guests Cate Blanchett, Jack Black, Joanna Lumley, Ashley Banjo, Ray Winstone and Paul Whitehouse. John Legend performs live in the studio.
- 10.50 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 11.05 UEFA Nations League Highlights.** England v Spain. Action from the League A Group 4 encounter at Wembley Stadium.
- 12.05 WOS Wrestling.** Crater continues to wreak havoc on the WOS arena and WOS Male Championship contenders push their claim to the title. Presented by Rachel Stringer. (R)
- 1.00 Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 3.00 Long Lost Family.** A woman hopes to be reunited with the son she gave up for adoption, while a nurse wants to meet her father for the first time. (R)
- 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.

Channel 4

- 6.10 Adventure & Trail Running: UK Challenge.** Action from the event staged in the Brecon Beacons.
- 6.40 Mobil 1: The Grid.**
- 7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Michael embarrasses the family. (R)
- 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R)
- 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R)
- 8.25 Frasier.** The Cranes take a trip in the Winnebago. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier.** The shrink composes a new theme tune. (R)
- 9.30 The Big Bang Theory.** Leonard and Penny try to give their relationship another chance. (R)
- 10.00 The Big Bang Theory.** Leonard and Penny continue testing their rekindled relationship. (R)
- 10.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R)
- 10.55 The Simpsons.** Homer recalls his musical heyday. (R)
- 11.25 The Simpsons.** Homer goes back to college. (R)
- 12.00 Come Dine with Me.** A contest of culinary one-upmanship from Glasgow. (R)
- 1.00 Four in a Bed.** The competition kicks off at the Admiral Hotel in central London. (R)
- 1.30 Four in a Bed.** Owners of The Redstone in Blackpool compete for the coveted best B&B title. (R)
- 2.00 Four in a Bed.** The hoteliers visit Ann's Farmhouse in the suburbs of Bradford, West Yorkshire. (R)
- 2.30 Four in a Bed.** The final visit is to the R Inn in Desborough. (R)
- 3.00 Four in a Bed.** The B&B owners meet for the last time. (R)
- 3.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.** A Sunderland couple seek the perfect Spanish property. (R)
- 4.35 The People's Vet.** A chihuahua puppy traps its paw in a patio door.
- 5.35 Escape to the Chateau: DIY.** Jonathan and Michael prepare for a wedding day with 45 guests. (R)
- 6.30 Channel 4 News.**
- 7.00 Britain at Low Tide.** Tori Herridge highlights more of Britain's maritime history via state-of-the-art technology, beginning with an 18th-century shipwreck found off the East Sussex coast. (R)
- 8.00 Lost Cities of the Maya: Revealed.** Documentary exploring the ruins of a hidden civilisation in the jungles of Central America, and revealing what fresh information the find has revealed about the Mayan people. (R)
- 9.00 Massacre at Ballymurphy.** Documentary investigating the massacre in West Belfast in August 1971, in which 11 people died when British troops opened fire on Catholic residents.
- 10.30 FILM: Gladiator (2000).** A Roman general is forced to fight as a gladiator and uses his position to seek revenge for the murder of his family. Oscar-winning epic, with Russell Crowe and Joaquin Phoenix.
- 1.20 Hollyoaks.** (R)
- 3.30 French Collection.** (R)
- 4.25 Village of the Year with Penelope Keith.** (R)
- 5.20 Food Unwrapped.** (R)
- 5.45 The Posh Frock Shop.** (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig 6.05 Peppa Pig 6.10 Peppa Pig 6.15 Luo Bao Bei 6.30 Digby Dragon 6.40 Fireman Sam 6.50 Thomas & Friends: Dinosaurs Discoveries 7.00 Bob the Builder 7.15 Rusty Rivets 7.30 Peppa Pig 7.35 Peppa Pig 7.40 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 7.55 Paw Patrol 8.15 Nella the Princess Knight 8.30 Shimmer and Shine 8.50 Pirata & Capitano 9.05 Noddy: Toyland Detective 9.20 Floogals 9.40 Paw Patrol**
- 9.50 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R)
- 10.25 Access.**
- 10.30 Police Interceptors.** A speeding motorist causes chaos after crashing into a gas main. (R)
- 11.20 Police Interceptors.** Sgt Carlin uncovers a major criminal operation. (R)
- 12.20 Police Interceptors.** Rick Edwards and Ortis Deley join officers on the night shift. (R)
- 1.20 Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords.** A landlady inspects her property after her tenant, an extreme hoarder, dies. (R)
- 2.20 Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords.** A Mansfield woman whose friend stopped paying rent. (R)
- 3.20 Rich House, Poor House.** Families from Essex and London swap places for a week. (R)
- 4.20 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Gary and Cona seek more than £3,500 owed for an unpaid loan. (R)
- 5.20 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents Matt and Garry chase £1,700 owed by an accountant to a client. (R)
- 6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents head to Manchester to recover more than £400,000 owed to a builder, while officers in Kent chase over £11,000 owed by a couple for unpaid rent. (R)
- 6.55 5 News Weekend.**
- 7.00 Cricket on 5.** England v India. Highlights of day two of the Fifth and final Test in the series, taking place at The Kia Oval, London.
- 8.00 Brunel's Britain: King of the Sea.** Rob Bell concludes his two-part documentary series by telling the story of Brunel's two masterpieces of ship design, the SS Great Britain and the SS Great Eastern. (R)
- 9.00 How the Victorians Built Britain.** Michael Buerk looks at the creation of the sewer system, delving into the archives to reveal how appalling sanitary conditions forced the city of Liverpool to take action.
- 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of the housemates' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to living alongside one another.
- 11.05 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of the 80s.** Countdown of controversial events from the decade, including Madonna's Like a Prayer video, Michael Fagan's impromptu royal visit and Bill Wyman's marriage to Mandy Smith. (R)
- 1.40 SuperCasino.**
- 3.10 Traffic Cops.** (R)
- 4.00 Britain by Bike with Larry & George Lamb.** (R)
- 4.45 Wildlife SOS.** (R)
- 5.10 House Doctor.** (R)
- 5.35 Nick's Quest.** (R)

September 9



Fake or Fortune?

8pm

Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould investigate whether an unusual sculpture that has been broken by a cat was originally the work of Alberto Giacometti. Last in the series.



Eight Go Rallying: The Road to Saigon

9pm

The teams have the finishing line in their sights as they travel along Vietnam's coastline to the closing ceremony in Saigon.



Vanity Fair

9pm

Becky has moved in with her rich aunt, and seems to have a bright future ahead of her. However, war is brewing on the horizon. Starring Olivia Cooke and Claudia Jessie.



Hidden Britain by Drone: Heatwave Special

7pm

Tony Robinson discovers how the hot summer of 2018 led to unexpected archaeological discoveries.



Celebrity Ghost Hunt: Haunted Holiday

10pm

Rylan Clark-Neal takes a team of celebrities on a ghost hunt in Ireland's Wicklow Gaol, infamous for its 300-year history of torture, starvation and death.

BBC1

- 6.00 **Breakfast.**
- 8.30 **The Andrew Marr Show.**
- 9.30 **Great North Run.** Gabby Logan presents coverage of the half-marathon that runs from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields, with approximately 57,000 runners set to take part this time around.
- 1.30 **BBC News; Weather.**
- 1.45 **Still Open All Hours.** Granville and Gastric come up with a romantic plan to persuade Madge and Mavis to stay. However, it involves spending a little more money than the shopkeeper is comfortable with. (R)
- 2.15 **Hold the Sunset.** Mrs Gale gives herself the task of being an unofficial marriage guidance counsellor to Roger and Wendy, while Edith and Phil seize the chance to get away for the weekend. (R)
- 2.45 **Points of View.** Viewers' opinions on BBC shows and behind-the-scenes reports on new programmes.
- 3.00 **Songs of Praise.** Josie d'Arby visits Bristol's 40th Balloon Fiesta, meeting members of St Peter's Hospice and a man creating living space for homeless people from shipping containers.
- 3.35 **Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and Philip Mould investigate the origins of two paintings dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries, which unusually for the period, depict black subjects. (R)
- 4.35 **Escape to the Country.** Nicki Chapman helps a couple look for a property with business potential in the Yorkshire Dales, and also learns the art of barrel-making from Britain's only master cooper. (R)
- 5.35 **Shop Well for Less?** Alex Jones and Steph McGovern face their biggest challenge yet with the Hurst family from Greater Manchester, whose high-end shopping habits leave a huge hole in their pockets. (R)
- 6.35 **BBC News.**
- 6.50 **Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 7.00 **Countryfile.** Anita Rani and John Craven present the show from Essex, reporting on how plant-based superfoods are becoming more popular and the repurposing of timber washed-up on the shore.
- 8.00 **Fake or Fortune?** Fiona Bruce and art expert Philip Mould investigate whether an unusual sculpture that has been broken by a cat was originally the work of Alberto Giacometti. Last in the series.
- 9.00 **Bodyguard.** David struggles to cope with the devastating events of the last 24 hours, and finds himself questioned by counter-terrorism agents as the police takes over the investigation.
- 10.00 **BBC News.**
- 10.20 **Midlands Today; Weather.**
- 10.30 **Kylie Minogue Live at Hyde Park.** The singer performs at the BBC Radio 2 Festival in a Day, featuring a selection of classic hits and tracks from her recent country music-inspired album Golden.
- 11.30 **The Women's Football Show.** Eliidh Barbour introduces highlights and talking points from the opening day of the 2018/19 Women's Super League, including champions Chelsea against runners-up Manchester City.
- 12.00 **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 12.05 **BBC News.**

BBC2

- 6.35 **Around the World in 80 Gardens.** Monty Don travels to India to visit the gardens of the Taj Mahal. (R)
- 7.35 **Gardeners' World.** Advice on dealing with overcrowded clumps of summer flowering bulbs. (R)
- 8.35 **Countryfile.** (R)
- 9.30 **The Beechgrove Garden.**
- 10.00 **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Matt Tebbutt presents highlights of the series.
- 11.30 **Great British Menu.** (R)
- 12.00 **Great British Menu.** The Central region chefs prepare desserts. (R)
- 12.30 **Great British Menu.** The two remaining chefs try to impress the judging panel. (R)
- 1.00 **Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food.** Dishes to celebrate a special occasion. (R)
- 1.30 **Hairy Bikers' Best of British.** Si King and Dave Myers explore Britain's love of apples and pears. (R)
- 2.30 **Wastemen.** How Newcastle and the Northeast are helping with solutions to our waste problems. Last in the series. (R)
- 3.30 **Homes Under the Hammer.** Properties in Cumbria, Essex and North Yorkshire. (R)
- 4.30 **Flog It!** From Tatton Park, Cheshire. (R)
- 5.00 **Great North Run Highlights.** JJ Chalmers presents action from the half-marathon.
- 6.00 **FILM: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989).** The intrepid archaeologist sets out to find his father, who has gone missing while searching for the Holy Grail. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery.
- 8.00 **Dragons' Den.** The panel assess the profit-making potential of business plans for gourmet cheesecake, hired drones, and collagen-infused gin. Presented by Evan Davis.
- 9.00 **Eight Go Rallying: The Road to Saigon.** The teams have the finishing line in their sights as they travel along Vietnam's coastline to Saigon – but the last day brings one duo to the brink of disaster. Last in the series.
- 10.00 **Mock the Week.** Angela Barnes, Ed Gamble, Rhys James, Nish Kumar and Tiff Stevenson join host Dara O Briain and regular panellist Hugh Dennis for the topical comedy show. (R)
- 10.30 **No Activity.** New series. Comedy following the work of two low-level detectives on a stake-out. In the first episode, Bruce and Hendy start the operation with a plaster dolphin in their car.
- 10.55 **No Activity.** Stokes and Hendy find themselves sitting in an empty dockyard watching shipping containers, but an overly eager security guard disrupts the operation.
- 11.20 **The Mighty Redcar.** Documentary about people in the North Yorkshire seaside resort Redcar, including a would-be professional musician and a mother and daughter planning for the school prom. (R)
- 12.05 **American Justice.** Cameras follow law enforcers in Jacksonville, Florida. (R)
- 1.05 **Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R)
- 2.00 **Sign Zone: Holby City.** (R)
- 3.00 **This Is BBC2.**

ITV

- 6.00 **CITV: Dino Dana 6.10 Super 4 6.25 Super 4 6.35 Make It Pop 6.55 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.00 Cut the Rope: Om Nom Stories 7.05 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.15 Mr Bean: The Animated Series 7.30 ToonMarty 7.40 ToonMarty 7.55 Thunderbirds Are Go**
- 8.25 **ITV News.**
- 8.30 **Zoe Ball On Sunday.** With guests Julian Clary, Alex Horne, London Hughes, David Morgan and Stephen Bailey. Last in the series.
- 9.25 **Ninja Warrior UK.** Obstacle-course challenge, with Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. (R)
- 10.25 **WOS Wrestling.** Male championship contenders push their claim to the title. (R)
- 11.25 **The X Factor.** The audition rounds continue. (R)
- 12.45 **5 Gold Rings.** Interactive game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield. (R)
- 1.45 **ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 2.00 **Goodwood Revival Live.** Coverage of the day's biggest races from Goodwood.
- 4.00 **Paul O'Grady's Little Heroes.** Paul first meets three-year-old Angel at Great Ormond Street Hospital. (R)
- 4.30 **Tipping Point.** Game show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
- 5.30 **The Chase.** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)
- 6.30 **ITV News and Weather.**
- 6.45 **ITV News Central; Weather.**
- 7.00 **5 Gold Rings.** Game show, hosted by Phillip Schofield, in which contestants answer visual questions. This episode features sisters competing against a married couple.
- 8.00 **The X Factor.** Dermot O'Leary hosts further action from the auditions, with solo singers and groups competing to impress judges Robbie Williams, Ayda Williams, Louis Tomlinson and Simon Cowell.
- 9.00 **Vanity Fair.** Becky has moved in with her rich aunt, and seems to have a bright future ahead of her. However, war is brewing on the horizon. Starring Olivia Cooke.
- 10.05 **The Imitation Game.** Alexander Armstrong hosts the impressions-based panel show, with team captains Rory Bremner and Debra Stephenson joined by panellists Christina Bianco and Jon Culshaw.
- 10.45 **ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 11.00 **Coronation Street's DNA Secrets.** Nicky Campbell investigates the ancestry of Corrie's best loved actors, including Sally Ann Matthews (Jenny Connor), who discovers she has a famous Weatherfield cousin. (R)
- 12.25 **Monster Carp.** Ali Hamidi and his guests go fishing in France. (R)
- 1.15 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
- 3.00 **Motorsport UK.** (R)
- 3.50 **ITV Nightscreen.**
- 5.05 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)

Channel 4

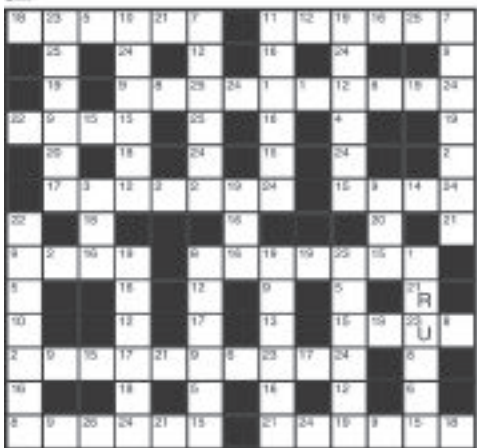
- 6.10 **Motor Sport: Mini Challenge.** Action from Brands Hatch Indy Circuit.
- 6.40 **Motor Sport: FIA World Rallycross Championship.** The World RX of France.
- 7.35 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray and Debra conceal an embarrassing accident. (R)
- 8.00 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra and Marie hatch a matchmaking plan. (R)
- 8.30 **Frasier.** The radio shrink dates a former prom queen. (R)
- 9.00 **Frasier.** Martin pretends he is gay. (R)
- 9.30 **Sunday Brunch.** With Jessica Knappett, Owen Teale, Louise Brealey, Sharon Rooney and Simon Reeve.
- 12.30 **The Simpsons.** Spoof behind-the-scenes special. (R)
- 12.55 **The Simpsons.** Bart costs the Isotots baseball team the championship. (R)
- 1.25 **FILM: The Book of Life (2014).** Animated adventure, with the voice of Diego Luna.
- 3.15 **The £100k Drop.** Quiz, presented by Davina McCall. (R)
- 4.20 **Orangutan Jungle School.** Following the lives of orphan orangutans in the Nyaru Menteng Orangutan Rescue Centre in Indonesian Borneo. (R)
- 5.20 **The Great British Bake Off.** It is week two and the remaining 11 bakers face Cake Week. (R)
- 6.35 **Channel 4 News.**
- 7.00 **Hidden Britain by Drone: Heatwave Special.** Tony Robinson discovers how the hot summer of 2018 led to unexpected archaeological discoveries, and talks to archaeologists and drone pilots who have recorded these finds.
- 8.00 **Battle of Britain: Model Squadron.** New series. Radio controlled plane enthusiasts from Britain and Germany are brought together by historian James Holland to re-enact the famous aerial battle.
- 9.00 **Celebrity Island with Bear Grylls.** New series. Another party of celebrities brave a deserted Pacific island, including Olympic rower James Cracknell, Hollywood star Eric Roberts, and Emmerdale's Roxanne Pallett.
- 10.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show, with Sean Lock and Bill Bailey taking on special guest captain Joe Wilkinson and Isy Suttie. Joe Lycett helps out in Dictionary Corner. (R)
- 11.00 **FILM: The Lincoln Lawyer (2011).** A cynical lawyer realises the rich man he is defending on a rape charge may have escaped justice for another attack in the past. Thriller, with Matthew McConaughey and Marisa Tomei.
- 1.10 **The Supertur.** A Staffordshire bull terrier puppy receives treatment for a badly deformed elbow. (R)
- 2.05 **The Secret Life of the Zoo.** Widowed porcupine Roxy meets a new, younger mate. (R)
- 3.00 **Grand Designs Australia.** Individuals in Australia design and build a new home. (R)
- 3.55 **Mobil 1: The Grid.** (R)
- 4.25 **Brunei's Britain: King of the Sea.** (R)
- 4.50 **Village of the Year with Penelope Keith.** (R)
- 5.45 **Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (R)
- 5.50 **Countdown.** (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 **Milkshake!:** Peppa Pig 6.05 Peppa Pig 6.10 Peppa Pig 6.15 Luo Bao Bei 6.30 Digby Dragon 6.40 Fireman Sam 6.50 Thomas & Friends 7.05 Bob the Builder 7.15 Rusty Rivets 7.30 Peppa Pig 7.35 Peppa Pig 7.45 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 7.55 Paw Patrol 8.15 Nella the Princess Knight 8.30 Shimmer and Shine 8.50 Pirata & Capitano 9.05 Noddy: Toyland Detective 9.20 Floogals 9.40 Paw Patrol
- 9.50 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** (R)
- 10.25 **Britain's Greatest Bridges.** (R)
- 10.35 **Police Interceptors.** Officers raid a cannabis farm located in an abandoned restaurant. (R)
- 11.25 **Police Interceptors.** Liam and police dog Titan take part in a full-scale manhunt. (R)
- 12.20 **Friends.** The first-ever episode of the comedy. (R)
- 12.55 **Friends.** Carol tells Ross about her plans for their baby. (R)
- 1.20 **Friends.** Monica shows off her new boyfriend. (R)
- 1.50 **Friends.** The girls spy on a neighbour. (R)
- 2.20 **Friends.** Phoebe and Chandler make a pact. (R)
- 2.50 **Friends.** Chandler dates a married woman. (R)
- 3.15 **Friends.** A power cut exposes Chandler to temptation. (R)
- 3.45 **Friends.** Ross and Monica's grandmother dies. (R)
- 4.15 **Friends.** Thanksgiving does not go as planned. (R)
- 4.45 **Friends.** The gang celebrate New Year's Eve. (R)
- 5.15 **FILM: Tarzan (1999).** Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Tony Goldwyn.
- 6.15 **Access.** Showbiz news and gossip.
- 6.20 **FILM: Tarzan (1999).** Concluded.
- 7.00 **Cricket on 5.** England v India. Highlights of day three of the Fifth and final Test in the series, taking place at The Kia Oval, London.
- 7.55 **5 News Weekend.**
- 8.00 **That's So 1982.** A look at 1982, using news, pop and TV archive clips. It was the year of the Falklands War, Prince William's birth, the launch of Channel 4, and ET: The Extra-Terrestrial. (R)
- 9.00 **Celebrity Big Brother.** The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt.
- 10.00 **Celebrity Ghost Hunt: Haunted Holiday.** New series. Rylan Clark-Neal takes a team of celebrities on a ghost hunt in Ireland's Wicklow Gaol.
- 11.05 **30 Inches Tall and Turning 18: Extraordinary People.** Documentary following a young woman with dwarfism from her 18th to her 19th birthday, including a trip to America to meet a medical expert to finally get her condition diagnosed. (R)
- 12.00 **FILM: Red Dawn (2012).** Action adventure remake, starring Chris Hemsworth.
- 1.40 **SuperCasino.**
- 3.10 **Brunei's Britain: King of the Sea.** (R)
- 4.00 **World's Most Pampered Pets.** (R)
- 4.45 **Wildlife SOS.** (R)
- 5.10 **House Doctor.** (R)
- 5.35 **Nick's Quest.** (R)

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21 R
9	22
10	23 U
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

X	W	S	C	D	V	O	N	O	F	Y	J	G
H	L	I	B	Z	T	R	K	M	P	E	A	U

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

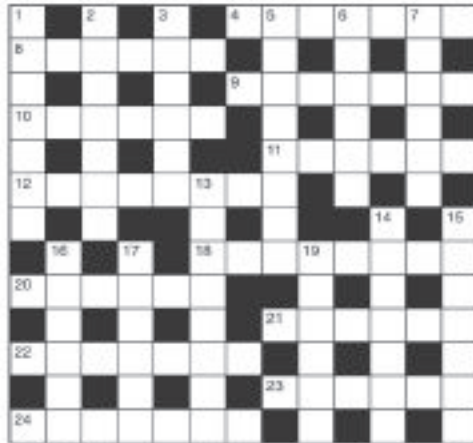
Cryptic Clues:

Across

4. On air journey, youth leader becomes giddy (7)
8. Sport in the packaging department? (6)
9. To carve ham (7)
10. Indicates letters used in incantations (6)
11. Give ear to silent reform (6)
12. Letter used in the manner of a buccannier (6)
18. Defer mail open to change (6)
20. Producer of electricity from Monday (6)
21. Trivial insult (6)
22. Thus, being lawful, make an appeal (7)
23. Be relevant to animal appearing (4,2)
24. Stuck in this place with a theologian around (7)

Down

1. Lamb, say, is extremely bad (7)
2. Right in leaving out selected passage (7)
3. Horn learnt badly (6)
5. Cut down on affection, receiving none at all (6)
6. Has rig-out which is showy (6)
7. Marked correct time? (6)
13. Suitable to place in monkey (6)
14. Fake produced by a blacksmith? (7)
15. Giving permission for hiring (7)
16. Verbal saying? (6)
17. Satty South African class of goods (6)
19. Agriculturalist of the helm? (6)



Quick Clues:

Across

4. Relief (7)
8. Estable (6)
9. Competent (7)
10. Annul (6)
11. Sting (6)
12. Courageous (6)
15. Upset (6)
20. Seemly (6)
21. Treat (6)
22. Chief city (7)
23. Glimpse (6)
24. Under (7)

Down

1. Chorus (7)
2. Contend (7)
3. Gratify (6)
5. Frouse (6)
6. Courtious (6)
7. Threefold (6)
13. Lengthen (6)
14. Sweet dish (7)
16. Whole number (7)
18. Ten years (6)
19. Contrivance (6)
19. Indeed (6)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	7	3	4	8	9	2	1	6
8	4	6	5	1	2	9	3	7
9	2	1	9	6	7	4	8	3
4	5	2	1	3	8	5	7	6
9	1	5	6	7	8	5	4	3
3	8	7	2	4	3	1	6	9
7	9	4	6	8	3	5	1	5
2	5	8	7	9	1	6	5	4
1	9	8	5	2	4	7	9	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Good spirits; 9 Eat; 10 Allotment; 11 Press; 13 Cynical; 14 Needle; 16 Senate; 18 Opulent; 19 Lathe; 20 China clay; 21 Airt; 22 Leading role. Down: 2 Out; 3 Drives; 4 Palace; 5 Petrus; 6 Trenchant; 7 Keep in touch; 8 All all events; 12 Excuse; 15 Leeward; 17 Stolen; 19 Layer; 21 Airt. QUICK - Across: 1 Domesticity; 9 Airt; 16 Indent; 11 Lapse; 13 Leaders; 14 Brother; 16 Animal; 18 Linings; 19 Minus; 20 Trickster; 21 All; 22 Celebration. Down: 2 Odd; 3 Ella; 4 Tussle; 5 Confair; 6 Trade-mark; 7 Fallibility; 8 Seriousness; 12 Painter; 15 Shackles; 17 Sister; 19 Merit; 21 Add.

Quiz

1. Who is Frank Richards' most famous creation?
2. With which disease is oncology concerned?
3. Which unit of distance is 1,652 km long?
4. Who wrote the foreword for the surprise best-seller The Catcher?
5. Which Australian PM was nicknamed 'the Prefect'?
6. In which country is the Lhasa-meer lake?
7. Which violinist was often accompanied by his sister Hephzibah?
8. Who wrote The Bostonians?
9. Who plays Gilderoy Lockhart in the movie Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets?
10. In which county is the seaside resort Heme Bay?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Elbus; 2 Science fiction; 3 Order of the

Garter; 4 Sherry; 5 Leach; 6 Diana Rigg;

7 Benjamin; 8 Mary Pierce; 9 Indian; 10 FBI.

Niner: CONSTABLE

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1899
2675
163947

gives a disturbance,
gives a second disturbance,
gives a disaster.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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At the front of the car, the bumper has been updated and a new cascading grille has been added

Hyundai's i20 gets facelift and update

By Tristan Shale-Hester

The i20 is Hyundai's combatant in the viciously competitive B-segment, where manufacturers battle it out with superminis that sell in huge numbers.

It's been a decade since Hyundai launched the underwhelming first-generation i20 into the market and four years since the second-generation model came along to render it obsolete.

Now, the South Korean brand has given the i20 a facelift in the hope of driving more sales. The most obvious change to the i20 is its exterior styling. At the front of the car, the bumper has been updated and a new cascading grille has been added.

The back bumper has also been changed, while the rear lights have been re-designed with a more dynamic aesthetic.

Also notable is the new range of Hyundai SmartSense driver assistance features, such as lane departure warning, lane-keeping assist, autonomous emergency braking, driver attention alert and high beam assist.

The i20 is available with a choice of two petrol engines. The first is a 1.2-litre unit, which can either produce 74bhp or 83bhp. Both versions of this engine come with a five-speed manual gearbox.

The second choice of engine is a 1.0-litre T-GDI. The 98bhp version is available with a five-speed manual or seven-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission. On the other hand, the 118bhp option comes with a six-speed manual gearbox.

Our test car was fitted with the 98bhp version of the 1.0-litre turbocharged engine and the seven-speed dual-clutch transmission. While the engine had perfectly adequate punch for a supermini such as the i20, the automatic gearbox really let the car down a little as it struggled to keep up and didn't change up until around 6,250rpm at full throttle.

There's not too much wrong with the way the i20 drives. One area that could do with improvement is the steering, which – as with many other



A highlight is the seven-inch touchscreen infotainment system

Hyundai models – is overly light. In contrast, one area the i20 wins points on is its ride comfort. The car absorbs bumps impressively in the road at any speed, which contributes to a smooth driving experience. This makes a refreshing change from all the models out there with unnecessarily harsh suspension.

Despite the weightless steering, the i20 doesn't seem to have any problem coping in the corners. The car holds the road well and feels fairly refined, even at higher speeds.

There's no getting away from the fact that the new i20 doesn't look much different from the pre-facelift model. The most noticeable updates are the new rear lights, which help give the car a more dynamic look.

In terms of colour, there are three new paints available on the facelifted i20 – Tomato Red, Champion Blue and Clean Slate. They sit alongside the already existing shades of Passion Red, Sleek Silver, Stardust Grey, Polar White and Phantom Black.

The build quality of the i20 isn't top notch. Despite being quite a high specification example, our test car had a lot of scratchy plastics throughout the cabin and featured some unattractive trim pieces that had come straight out of the comparatively budget i10.

That said, everything functions

perfectly well. A highlight is the seven-inch touchscreen infotainment system, which is very intuitive and user friendly, and adds a touch of class to the interior. Something the i20's interior really has going for it is space. Not only is there ample legroom and headroom in both the front and back seats, but the car also has a 301-litre boot with a removable floor.

It almost goes without saying that price is the category where a Hyundai should dominate the field, but the i20 is a bit of a mixed picture.

The basic S Connect model costs £13,955, which buys you air conditioning, a seven-inch touchscreen infotainment system and DAB radio. Paying £15,495 for the SE model adds front fog lights, an extra pair of audio speakers and the full range of Hyundai SmartSense driver assistance features.

The Premium Nav specification starts at £16,245 and includes 16-inch alloy wheels, climate control and satellite navigation. Our test car was at the top end of this trim level, costing £18,945.

Finally, the top-spec Premium SE Nav trim level starts at £17,295 and comes with chrome exterior door handles, a sunroof and a grey dedicated radiator grille.

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MG's hatchback receives a revamp

By Ian Donaldson

A thorough revamp of MG's little hatchback marks another step in the awakening of an automotive giant.

For more than a decade the famously British badge has been planted on the nose of cars coming from China and produced by one of the world's biggest car companies, SAIC.

But you have to look hard to spot a new MG on our roads, where 813 of them were registered in July. That only just beat the rather more upmarket Porsche, with 758 sales, but it's an upward trend.

And that's important; with sales for the month increased by a more than encouraging 166 per cent there is optimism in the air around the MG brand.

This new reworking of the MG3 aims to keep that sales trend heading upward. With other new models due in the next three years, including plug-in electric hybrids and even a battery powered roadster, we might quite soon see the MG badge more often.

A much larger version now takes pride of place on the newly styled front of the MG3, complete with bolder radiator grille. There's a bigger one on the back too, as MG emphasises those two famous initials.

This styling refresh gives the MG3 more in common with its two newer siblings, in the shape of GS and SZ models, both hitching a ride on the current SUV boom, with the ZS accounting for more of half total sales of the brand.

Inside the latest MG3 you'll find a new dashboard complete with clearer instruments and a touchscreen adding a spot of style in a spacious interior that belies the modest price asked for the car – which starts at £9,495 for



There's a new dashboard inside

an Explore model, slides through the £11,395 Excite and tops out with the Exclusive at £12,795.

All versions have Bluetooth telephone and audio streaming and AUX/USB as standard, while Excite and Exclusive gain the eight inch colour touchscreen with Apple CarPlay (but no Android Auto), DAB radio and steering wheel audio controls. The Exclusive version adds a reversing camera with dynamic guidelines to help pop it into a tight parking space.

The entry level version costs £800 more than before but that's not likely to dampen sales – more than half of new MG3s will be in the dearest spec, so buyers evidently don't buy simply on cheapness.

What may tempt them is the new seven year or 80,000 mile warranty that comes with this latest version, showing faith in its longevity and transferable to a new owner if you decide to sell up and move on.

Under the bonnet beats a mildly upgraded



The newly styled front of the MG3, complete with bolder radiator grille and a large MG badge on the bonnet

version of the previous 1.5 litre petrol engine, meeting the latest emissions regulations and capable of powering the car to 108mph and to 60mph in 10.4 seconds.

Those are unremarkable figures - along with tailpipe emissions of 140g/km and official average economy of 47.1mpg. Insurance in lowly groups seven or eight is more likely to impress.

So too does the way the MG3 drives on

the British roads where prototypes spent many thousands of miles in development of the original model. It translates into a nicely restrained ride and enough response to steering input to make corners something to welcome.

A five-speed gearbox leaves you wanting a sixth ratio at motorway speeds and the engine never shows anything like enthusiasm if provoked. A 41.9mpg return on the dashboard

display felt like a reasonable return though. At rest, the MG3 continues to impress with enough space inside for a quartet of grown ups and a boot capacity of 285 litres is no disgrace in the car's supermini class.

So, the latest MG3 takes the game on but only a little. It's obvious attractions perhaps centre more on price and warranty but it's a move in the right direction. Watch this space, as they say.

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Parking and reversing blamed for almost one in ten serious van crashes

Figures from the Department for Transport show there were 1,350 parking and reversing van accidents involving light commercial vehicles weighing up to 3.5 tonnes in 2016 that resulted in deaths or serious and slight injuries to drivers, passengers, pedestrians or cyclists.

Far more parking and reversing incidents also occur which do not have a direct 'human' impact – but which will inevitably affect fleet and business operations.

As well as causing injuries, these accidents force vans off the road and into Van Centres for repairs. Downtime costs fleets an average of £550 a day per van while average UK car repair bills stand at £1,678.

Reduce

Parking cameras and sensors can reduce the chance or severity of accidents and Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles offers these driver assistance systems across its range of Caddy, Transporter and Crafter vans.

Park Assist helps eliminate the risk of accidents by parking the vehicle automatically.

To use the system, drivers simply press a button and the vehicle uses multiple sensors to steer itself into the tightest parking spots. All drivers have to do is operate the pedals to execute the manoeuvre.

Front and rear parking sensors can be added as part of Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles' Business Pack, while a rear-view camera, Trailer Assist and side protection monitoring are also available as options.

Sarah Cox, head of marketing for



Park Assist helps eliminate the risk of accidents by parking the vehicle automatically

Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, said: "The figures show how problematic parking and reversing can be for commercial vehicle drivers, especially for those who spend a lot of time negotiating tight spaces.

"Our parking safety technology is offered across the range to allow fleet managers and owners to select the van with the best features to suit their

individual operating requirements. It's all part of our Working With You promise to provide a vehicle and total support package for every UK fleet."

For more details on Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles' award-winning range of products and services, or to find your nearest Van Centre, visit www.volkswagen-vans.co.uk

How they stand

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Oswestry & Border Chronicle

Thursday, September 6, 2018

Henshalls Shropshire County

Cricket League

Premier	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Quatt	18	13	1	1	3	15	319
Wem	18	12	2	1	3	32	317
Madeley	19	11	1	7	0	39	276
Sentinel	18	11	0	4	3	24	275
Worfield	18	8	3	6	1	53	236
Ludlow	18	6	2	8	2	57	191
Bomere Heath	18	6	1	8	3	45	190
St Georges	18	5	2	9	2	54	182
Frankton	18	5	1	10	2	57	172
Newtown	18	4	0	14	0	62	135
Cound	19	1	1	14	3	82	123

Division 1	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Allscott	20	15	2	3	0	38	388
Shelfton	20	13	1	5	1	43	350
Knockin & Kinnerley	20	13	1	4	2	38	339
Pontesbury	20	13	1	6	0	41	336
Alberbury	20	10	2	6	2	55	304
Beacon	20	10	1	8	1	43	272
Wroster & Uppington	20	8	2	10	1	60	245
Forton	20	7	2	9	2	63	236
Albrighton	20	7	1	11	1	50	218
Welshpool	20	5	2	12	1	53	176
Condover	20	5	2	13	2	56	154
Market Drayton	20	4	0	19	1	34	12

Division 2	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Ellesmere	20	14	3	2	1	35	364
Montgomery	20	13	3	3	1	38	336
Shifnal	20	14	1	2	3	14	319
Llleshall	20	10	1	7	2	41	278
Wellington	20	8	2	8	2	57	254
Church Aston	20	8	3	7	2	53	245
Hodnet, Peplow & Tibberton	20	7	3	9	1	69	236
Ludlow	20	7	2	10	1	54	229
Wiley	20	6	3	8	3	65	227
Whiston Aston	20	6	3	10	1	62	206
Bishops Castle	20	3	0	14	3	60	127
Shrewsbury	20	1	2	17	0	69	54

Division 3	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Harpers	20	13	4	3	0	52	331
Calverhall	20	12	1	7	0	44	325
Hinstock	20	13	0	4	3	23	316
Prees	20	12	2	6	0	37	278
Chelmarsh	20	8	3	7	2	73	277
Iscoyd & Fenns Bank	20	10	2	7	1	48	268
Church Stretton	20	10	0	9	1	36	258
Acton Reynald	20	8	1	10	1	65	239
Cae Glas	20	7	2	10	1	57	212
Much Wenlock	20	5	1	12	2	60	183
Overton-on-Dee	20	4	1	14	1	59	131
St Georges	20	3	1	16	0	48	107

Division 4	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Bridgnorth	16	14	0	2	0	15	318
Trysil & Seisdon	16	14	0	2	0	7	303
Column	17	9	3	5	0	44	243
Gulfield	17	8	2	6	1	44	227
Harcourt	15	7	1	5	2	30	186
Corvedale	17	6	3	6	2	43	180
Quayside	16	3	1	11	1	49	128
Shelton	16	3	1	11	1	49	128
Llanidloes	16	5	0	10	1	31	115
Beacon	17	1	1	13	2	48	66

Div1 2ndXI							
	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
St Georges	19	12	3	2	2	28	311
Sentinel	18	13	1	1	3	26	309
Worfield	17	11	2	3	1	33	282
Frankton	18	9	0	9	0	39	227
Quatt	18	7	1	7	3	49	210
Shelton	18	8	0	9	1	29	209
Wellington	18	6	2	7	3	47	199
Alberbury	18	5	1	10	2	55	186
Wem	18	5	2	10	1	63	178
Knockin & Kinnerley	18	3	2	11	2	75	151
Montgomery	18	3	0	13	2	59	131

Div2 2ndXI	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Madeley	20	10	2	5	3	52	296
Newtown	20	12	1	6	1	34	266
Beacon	20	12	1	6	1	24	251
Acton Reynald	20	10	0	9	1	32	251
Cound	20	9	2	8	1	40	237
Wiley	20	8	2	9	1	48	230
Brosely	20	11	1	5	3	28	223
Bomere Heath	20	7	3	8	2	54	211
Llleshall	20	7	2	9	2	47	211
Ludlow	20	7	0	10	3	43	203
Allscott	20	3	2	14	1	89	176
Shifnal	20	4	2	11	3	54	139

Div3 2ndXI	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Pontesbury	19	14	1	3	1	17	320
Allscott	18	10	3	5	0	39	258
Forton	17	9	2	5	1	36	240
Albrighton	18	8	3	7	0	51	225
Quatt	17	7	2	6	2	50	224
Ellesmere	18	9	0	6	3	26	220
Iscoyd & Fenns Bank	19	8	2	8	1	37	219
Welshpool	18	8	2	7	1	38	215
Cae Glas	18	6	3	8	1	52	201
St Georges	17	6	2	6	3	29	166
Llleshall	18	4	2	10	2	54	164
Condover	17	6	1	8	2	24	132
Much Wenlock	17	5	1	10	1	31	123
Corvedale	17	1	0	12	4	32	44

Sun1	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Knockin & Kinnerley	18	8	3	4	3	50	245
Shrewsbury	18	9	2	4	3	32	241
Worfield	18	8	1	6	3	49	241
Wem	18	8	3	2	5	34	237
Cound	19	8	3	2	4	23	236
Wellington	18	6	3	6	3	48	208
Frankton	17	6	2	6	3	45	202
Pontesbury	18	6	4	5	3	48	192
Newport	18	6	2	7	3	33	162
Sentinel	18	1	4	8	5	68	129
Llleshall	18	0	1	12	5	62	77

Sun2	P	W	D	L	C/A	B	P
Bridgnorth	15	13	0	0	2	2	298
Alberbury	16	9	1	5	1	20	291
Madeley	15	5	2	4	4	33	173
Whitchurch	15	7	0	7	1	26	168
Madeley	14	4	1	7	3	45	158
Oswestry	15	6	1	5	3	28	151
Knockin & Kinnerley	15	4	1	7	3	35	133
Wellington	15	2	1	10	2	45	99
Bomere Heath	15	3	1	8	3	24	89



Shropshire & Herefordshire's first team golfers ended the season with a narrow 8-7 home defeat to Nottinghamshire. Pictured before the game are, from left, Elliott Buck, James Showell, Trey Niven, Callum Brown, Ross Booton, Kris Jones, George Watton, Sean McCarthy and Ernie Wilks (president)

Coors Mid Shropshire

Bowling League

Division 1	P	W	L	D	P
St Georges A	22	16	6	0	220
Highley A	22	17	5	0	212
H U S C A	22	17	5	0	210
SJ Bayley A	22	14	8	0	193
Newport A	22	12	10	0	175
Bowring A	22	12	10	0	167
Wrock Wood A	22	12	9	0	165
Sinclair A	22	11	11	0	165
Allscott Heath A	22	10	12	0	155
Bylet A	22	7	15	0	141
Donn Wood A	22	6	16	0	136
Madeley C C A	22	7	15	0	129
Bridgnorth A	22	4	17	0	103

Division 2	P	W	L	D	P
Horsehay A	21	18	3	0	242
Stockton A	21	15	6	0	206
Madeley CC B	20	13	7	0	151
Brosely A	20	11	9	0	160
Bylet B	20	11	9	0	155
SJ Bayley B	21	10	11	0	154
Horsehay B	20	9	11	0	152
Charlton A	20	11	9	0	146
Highley B	20	11	9	0	146
Newport B	20	8	12	0	126
Wrock Wood B	21	5	16	0	108
Bowring B	20	4	16	0	90

Division 3	P	W	L	D	P
Allscott Heath B	19	16	3	0	195
Albrighton A	19	15	4	0	198
St Georges B	19	14	5	0	186
Bridgnorth B	19	10	9	0	151
Trench B	19	9	10	0	138
Much Wenlock A	19	10	9	0	137
Donn Wood B	19	8	11	0	134
Madeley CC C	19	8	11	0	129
Shifnal B	19	8	11	0	129
Maddocks A	19	5	14	0	115
Newport C	19	5	14	0	109
Chelmarsh A	19	6	13	0	97

Division 4	P	W	L	D	P
Horsehay C	16	12	4	0	146
Sinclair C	16	11	5	0	139
Madeley CC C	16	11	5	0	139
H U S C B	17	9	8	0	136
Worfield A	16	8	8	0	129
Donn Wood C	16	9	7	0	129
Shifnal C	16	8	8	0	118
Allscott Heath C	16	5	11	0	112
Shelton B	17	7	10	0	111
Wrock Wood C	16	6	10	0	101
Albrighton B	17	6	11	0	93

Division 5	P	W	L	D	P
St Georges C	14	11	3	0	141
SJ Bayley C	14	10	4	0	131
Wrock Wood D	15	9	6	0	119
Charlton B	14	9	5	0	115
Bridgnorth C	15	6	9	0	106
Bowring C	15	7	8	0	105
Bylet C	15	7	8	0	101
Much Wenlock B	14	6	8	0	95
Trench C	15	5	10	0	90
SJ Bayley D	15	3	12	0	81

Division 6	P	W	L	D	P
Horsehay D	17	12	5	0	159
Newport D	16	12	4	0	150
Madeley CC D	16	11	5	0	147
Bridgnorth D	17	11	6	0	145
Allscott Heath D	16	12	4	0	144
Highley C	16	8	8	0	120
Albrighton C	17	6	11	0	116
Wrock Wood E	16	4	13	0	102
Edmond B	16	6	10	0	100
Shifnal D	16	5	11	0	86
Donn Wood D	16	3	13	0	81

Saturday League

	P	W	L	D	P
Sinclair	12	11	1	0	414
SJ Bayley	12	11	1	0	408
Charlton	12	4	8	0	319
Allscott Heath	11	6	5	0	318
Trench	11	5	6	0	314
Shifnal	11	2	8	0	236
Bridgnorth	11	0	10	0	197

Thursday League

	P	W	L	D	P
Wrock Wood	22	14	6	2	720
Newport	21	18	2	1	708
Shifnal	21	17	4	0	704
Elephant and Castle	21	15	4	2	677
St. Georges	21	12	8	1	663
Prince of Wales Hotel	21	13	8	0	658
HUSC	21	13	7	1	632
Bowring A	21	10	10	1	625
Sinclair	21	12	8	1	595
Trench	22	7	15	0	551
Allscott Heath	21	5	15	1	539
Madeley	21	5	16	0	516
Bowring B	21	2	19	0	455
Charlton	21	0	21	0	418

Llanrhaeadr win books promotion to top flight

HIGH-RIDING Llanrhaeadr A booked their place in the top flight of the Oswestry and District Bowling League next season after overcoming George 8-2 in their penultimate second division fixture.

Steve Jones (21-7) continued his fine form with a 20th win in 21 appearances as Llan swept to an aggregate success by 41 shots (157-114).

Glyn Edwards also won to seven, with the league leaders now needing just two points from their last match to clinch the title. Merv Roberts (21-15) was the best of the replies for George.

Any lingering promotion chances ended for Weston Rhyn A who crashed 8-2 (145-123) at Plas Kynaston A despite good replies from Derek Taylor and Richard Oakley, who both won to 13.

Single figure cards from Paul Edwards (21-4) and Bryan Parry (21-5) helped Ye Olde Crofte A retain their second division status with an 8-2 (156-108) home win over Llangynog A.

Church B also secured safety despite going down 7-3 (146-133) at home to Johnstown D, Dave Smith their best of the night with a 21-4 verdict.

Already relegated Ellesmere A were downed 8-2 (151-122) at third placed Crifftins B for whom Dave Jones (21-7) led the way, while Mike Dovaston replied to seven for the Mercedesers.

Despite Anthony Gillam and James Gillam both winning to 14, Crifftins C suffered an 8-2 (154-107) loss at Johnstown B.

CHURCH A continue to sweat on relegation from division one after their 7-3 (145-106) defeat away to basement rivals Llanymynech A, who themselves are now close to safety.

Replies

Llany took the match by the scruff of the neck with single figure wins from Roger Candlin, Mark Kirkham and Henry Pugh to four, six and seven respectively.

In-form Steve Williams (21-11) was the best of the replies for Church with his 16th win in 19 outings this term.

With one match remaining, at home to Llangollen, Church still have work to do to ensure they stay up.

Whittington A failed to stop high-flying Ceirioig Valley A from retaining the first division crown as they crashed 9-1 (167-125) away to the defending champions. Mike Brunt (21-20) gained the only win for the visitors who remain in fourth place.

Llangollen A clinched runners-up spot with an 8-2 (126) victory at home to Crifftins A whose Luke Dulson (21-16) provided some cheer for the Dudleston Heath side.

Chirk A cemented their position in the higher reaches of the table after sweeping aside lowly Cynwyd A 8-2 at home, taking the aggregate by 34 (149-115) shots.

Elsewhere, Ruabon A are looking good for third place after their 9-1 (160-126) beating of visiting Corwen A, while Flexsys A were 7-3 (149-113) winners at home to Johnstown A. Other results:

Division three: Whittington B 9 (166) Ceirioig Valley C 1 (100), Johnstown C 9 (162) Church Lions 1 (116), Church C 9 (159) Ruabon B 1 (109), Chirk B 9 (156) Bersham 1 (85), Ceirioig Valley B 3 (122) Ifron 7 (144), Llanymynech Foxes B 9 (129) Llangollen B 4 (117).

Division four: Ellesmere B 10 (168) Llanrhaeadr C 0 (100), Pentre Broughton 10 (168) Weston Rhyn B 0 (64), Crifftins D 9 (165) Whittington E 1 (89), Llangynog C 6 (144) Overton A 4 (133), Llanrhaeadr D 6 (138) Llanymynech B 4 (126), Llanfyllin A 7 (134) Cynwyd B 3 (125).

Division five: Plas Kynaston B 9 (160) Weston Rhyn C 1 (118), Llanrhaeadr B 7 (152) Ponciau Park A 3 (130), Llanymynech C 8 (149) Convent B 2 (119), Cynwyd C 6 (144) Whittington G 4 (121), Ye Olde Crofte B 4 (129) Crifftins E 6 (131), Chirk C 9 (164) Johnstown E 1 (141).

Division six: Whittington D 10 (168) Llanrhaeadr E 0 (97), Hampden Arms 8 (155) Chark D 2 (105), Weston Rhyn D 4 (128) Llangynog B 6 (134), Llanfyllin B 3 (121) Church D 7 (137), Church E 3 (110) Ruabon C 7 (144), Ponciau Park C 9 (166) Overton B 1 (108).

Narrow loss for COBRA at local rivals

COBRA made a disappointing start to the North Wales League division two after being edged out 8-3 at Powys rivals Newtown.

Having lifted the Mid Wales Cup the week before with a last-gasp win over Llanidloes, the Meifod were looking to get their league campaign off to a flying start.

Despite being without a number of key personnel due to a wedding, they had enough possession to have come away with a win but failed to find a way through a solid home defence.

Will Worthington missed a couple of penalties be-

fore kicking COBRA into an interval lead, but the visitors should have had more points on the board after a spell of pressure.

They started the second half in similar vein, trying to batter their way through the home rearguard when taking the ball wide may have paid greater dividends.

Newtown held firm despite having a 10 minute spell with 14 men, before striking late on when driving over the line for the only try of the game and then sealing the win with a penalty moments later.

COBRA went close late on, but were halted in

sight of the line, leaving them to reflect on what might have been.

Welshpool, winners of the Mid Wales Shield the previous week, opened their season with a closely fought 3-0 success against Teirw Nant.

Biggest winners of the day were Llanidloes who romped to a 45-7 victory at Abergele, with left wing Carwyn Jones scoring a hat-trick of tries.

COBRA entertain Welshpool in a local derby on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Welshpool's newly-formed second team lost 59-19 to Dolgellau in their first action.

Young Eagles team defeated in opener

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

OSWESTRY'S campaign in rugby's Lancs and Cheshire Division Two got off to a difficult start after slumping to a 52-0 loss at home to highly-rated Wigan club Aspull.

With a number of young players making their first-team debuts, it was to prove a challenging afternoon for the Eagles who conceded eight tries, six in the first half and two in the second.

Although well beaten by a stronger and fitter team, they could take a lot of positives from their determined second-half display.

There were some good performances, particularly from the debutants, and man-of-the-match was given to one of those players James Evans.

Aspull where soon in their stride, racing into a 12-0 lead with a couple of scores and a conversion, while Oswestry's cause was not helped on 14 minutes when Nikola Nikolov was yellow carded after being adjudged to have deliberately knocked on when trying to intercept.

With only 14 men, Oswestry hung on for eight minutes before Aspull ran in their third try which was converted for a 19-0 lead.

Nikolov returned to the pitch, but even up to full strength the home side could not prevent the visitors crossing for a fourth bonus point score which went unconverted.

Aspull were running through Oswestry at ease and quickly extended their score to 29 points, with the conversion hitting the post.

Despite some good play by James Evans and William Lewis, backed up by Jamie Ellis, the Aspull defence proved too strong, and more enterprising running brought a sixth touchdown for a 36-0 interval lead.

Despite suffering injuries to Jamie Ellis and Scott Smith early in the second half, the Granville Park men kept battling and were given a boost with Aspull having their centre sin binned.

However, the hosts could not capitalise on their numerical advantage, and found themselves down to 14 men themselves when Iwan Ellis was given a yellow card for offside.

All the good play by Oswestry could not stop Aspull running in another try before a late converted score took their tally to the 50-point mark.

After a tough first day, the Eagles will be looking for improved fortunes on Saturday when they visit Congleton.

Youngsters meet GB golden girl



Sprint star Dina Asher-Smith after signing the banner made by Oswestry Olympians youngsters

The new golden girl of British Athletics Dina Asher-Smith proved a big hit with youngsters from Oswestry Olympians.

The double European sprint champion signed autographs and posed for pictures in her appearance at the Muller Diamond League Grand Prix at Birmingham.

She spent time chatting to five

Olympians' junior members Massimo Wyatt, Evan and Seren Roberts and Tom and Kate Hotchkiss after competing in the event.

The youngsters and their parents had seats close to where the athletes walked back from their media interviews, and were thrilled as the big names of British athletics took time out to sign autographs and pose for selfies.

Stars they met included British team members Eilidh Doyle, Eilish McColgan, Adam Gemili, Katarina Johnson-Thompson and Andrew Pozzi alongside other leading athletes from across the world.

However, the highlight for the youngsters came when Asher-Smith came over to them and signed a banner they had made.

Saints are pushed hard by Caernarfon

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

DEAN EBBE scored one and made another as The New Saints successfully navigated a tricky JD Welsh Premier trip to league newcomers Caernarfon with a 3-0 victory at Caernarfon Town.

The home side had their chances in front of a fervent 1,345 crowd, but were punished by the defending champions who showed plenty of resolve to protect their goal in an entertaining encounter.

After the victory, boss Scott Ruscoe admitted his players were made to battle all the way by an impressive Caernarfon side who are already making their mark on their return to the top flight.

"They would feel hard done by as our goal led a charmed life at times, but you deserve that when you work hard, have a willingness to defend and put bodies on the line," said Ruscoe.

"Caernarfon played some excellent football, were well drilled, with good stamina levels, and kept going right to the end.

"This is the hardest we've had to work in a league game for a long time, so it was pleasing to score

three goals and keep a clean sheet. Paul Harrison stood up for us in goal and was brilliant.

"The score may have flattered us a bit, but we played very well and did enough to win the game. We were good in possession, but vulnerable on the counter attack at times."

Ebbe, who netted four times in the Saints' European campaign in the summer, continued his good form when breaking the deadlock two minutes before the interval after meeting a right wing cross with a neat finish.

The Irish striker then slipped a superb pass to Jamie Mullan to race down the right and slot past keeper Alex Ramsey to double the lead just before the hour.

Greg Draper then came off the bench to make it three on 80 minutes when latching onto a weak back header to coolly lob into the net for his fifth

goal of the season – all as a substitute. But the Saints were also indebted to keeper Harrison who pulled off some terrific saves to keep his side on terms earlier in the game.

He denied Jamie Breeze in the seventh minute, and the club captain again showed his worth moments later with another fine stop after Danny Brookwell had muscled his way through.

The Cofis continued to have plenty of the ball, and again went close on 26 minutes when Brookwell fired just wide after neat build-up play from Breeze and Darren Thomas.

After falling behind to Ebbe's strike, the home side could have levelled five minutes after the break when spurning a gaping goal after Harrison had pulled off a point-blank save from Breeze.

■ TNS ladies made an early exit in the FA Women's National League Cup after going down 3-0 to Nottingham Forest Ladies in the first round at Four Crosses. Katie Middleton scored a hat-trick for the visitors.

Brace for Edington as United east past Street

LLANFAIR United stayed hard on the heels of the early leaders in the MMP Mid Wales League division one after sweeping aside Bow Street 4-1 at the Mount.

Nathan Edington put Llanfair on course for a fifth straight success when breaking the deadlock with a 20-yard strike.

Josh Astley then weighed in with a goal in each half and Toby Evans also found the net, before the visitors pulled back a consolation.

Caersws also maintained their 100 per cent record with a crushing 6-0 victory over Llandrindod Wells at the Recreation Ground.

Mark Edmondson led the charge with a hat-trick, while Jake Parr, Elliot Jones and Craig Harris also found the net in a sixth successive win.

Jake Mann's late strike earned Welshpool Town a 3-2 victory over Tywyn Brynecrug at Maesydre.

After their Nathaniel MG Cup loss to Aberystwyth Town, the Lilywhites bounced back as they took a two-goal lead through Ian Macleod and Ricky Litchfield.

Tywyn then hit back to level matters, before Mann bagged the winner with five minutes to go with an excellent shot.

Berriew smashed struggling Knighton Town 9-0 with Joe Haycock, Calum Greatorex and Steffan Rogers all firing braces.

Kerry crumbled 7-3 at home to Aberaeron after a disastrous last 20 minutes, having been in the hunt through Max McLaughlin, Luke Mumford and an own goal.

Llanidloes Town suffered their first loss of the season when edged out 3-2 at home to fellow early front runners Radnor Valley.

After a goalless first half, the Daffs found themselves three down soon after the break.

Joey Price scored twice, his second with a penalty, before Jack Williams added a third on 63 minutes to seemingly kill the game off.

But Llani gave themselves hope when Peter Rees pulled one back with a neat finish from a tight angle. Top scorer Connor Bird got a second from close range six minutes from time to set up a tense finish.

Montgomery kept the pressure on the second division leaders with a 4-0 beating of Machynlleth.

Crosses go through to next round

FOUR CROSSES progressed in the JD Welsh Cup after putting paid to Waterloo Rovers 5-0 at Foxen Manor in the first qualifying round.

Jake Edwards and Simon Griffiths both scored twice, with Jordan Gerrard getting the other with a penalty.

Abermule staged a stirring comeback to keep their flag flying in the cup with a 3-2 victory against Rhayader Town.

They trailed by two goals to their visitors, but hit back to level before grabbing a last minute winner.

Llansantffraid Village went out 3-1 at home to Builth Wells, while Churchstoke lost 5-2 at Dolgellau.

Montgomery also stumbled at the first hurdle as they bowed out 3-2 at home to Machynlleth who avenged an earlier defeat in the MMP Mid Wales League.

Forsten United, meanwhile, maintained their flying start to the Montgomeryshire League division one with a 3-0 home success against Llangedwyn.

Division one: Forsten United 3 Llangedwyn 0, Guilsfield res v Caersws res (post), Llanfyllin Town 2 Llancar res 1.

Division two: Llanrhaeadr res 6 Four Crosses res 0.

Boys & Boden League Cup round one: Churchstoke res 0 Maesyrhandir 7, Meifod 4 Llanfyllin 0, Trefelen 4 Abermule res 3.

■ Gobowen Celtic extended their unbeaten start to the Shropshire Premier League after finishing 1-1 with 10-man Shrewsbury Juniors.

Dix takes 5-10 as bowlers lead way

IN-FORM Knockin & Kinnerley are on course for runners-up spot in the Shropshire League division one after inflicting a 53-run defeat on Allscott.

Josh Keys hit 69 and Shaun Davis 35 as Knockin were bowled out for 181, before Thomas Dix returned terrific figures of 5-10 from seven overs as Allscott were sent back for 128.

CAE GLAS took maximum points against third division promotion hopefuls Hinstock – but in a very unsatisfactory manner.

Hinstock have been nomadic for their home games for much of the season, and the game was scheduled to take place at the Bowring in Wellington.

Having made the journey to Telford, Cae Glas were disappointed to find the venue had been double booked and Hinstock had no option but to concede the game.

Rock bottom MONTGOMERY II were edged out by just eight runs at FRANKTON II in the 2nd XI League division one.

Chasing 129, in which George Dickin hit 55 and Neil Tuffain took 3-37, Monty were dismissed for 121 in reply, despite an unbeaten 48 from opener Matthew Jones. Frankton's Archie Dickin was chief destroyer with 6-20.

Ifton fall to a defeat at bottom club

DESPITE a 15th win of the season from Leighton Roberts, Ifton succumbed 10-4 at rock bottom Hammer in the Salop Leisure Shropshire Premier Bowls League.

Roberts provided the best result of the night for the St Martins side when prevailing 21-12 against Richard Pullen, but the visitors were well beaten by 38 shots (238-200).

Dave Bond won to 18, while Martin Jones and Geraint Williams saw their matches go all the way before prevailing 21-20.

Ian Metcalfe was himself edged out to 20, while the consistent Craig Griffiths went down 21-19.

With three matches remaining, Ifton – who remain eighth in the table – will look to bounce back at home to high-flying Castlefields on Friday night.

Title-chasing Fields moving 11 points clear at the top after defeating second-placed Newport 9-5 (205-190) in the big game of the night.

Sir John Bayley are looking good for third position after their 10-6 success at Wrockwardine Wood in which they took the shots by just one (207-206).

Despite their victory against Ifton, Hammer are still 22 points adrift at the foot of the table.

Friday's fixtures: Bylet v St Georges, Hanmer v Wern USC, Hanwood v Bowring, Ifton v Castlefields, Meole Brace v Chester Road, Newport v Wrockwardine Wood, Sir John Bayley v Burway.

Ladies stay in title race

A TERRIFIC effort kept Oswestry Tennis Club's Ladies first team in sight of an inaugural title in the Shropshire premier division after sharing the spoils at chief rivals Bridgnorth.

In the first round rubbers against last season's division one champions, the first pair of Josie Macrae and Flo Malherbe fought hard to contain the opposing first pair before going down 4-6, 3-6.

However, the second pair of Eirian Jones and Fiona Russell won in straight sets 6-1, 6-3 to level the score.

Again, the opposing first pair proved too strong as they beat Jones and Russell in straight sets 1-6, 3-6, but Macrae and Malherbe easily overcame the opposing second pair 6-1, 6-2 to come away with a well deserved two points.

Montgomery closing in on promotion

MONTGOMERY moved closer to promotion from the Shropshire Cricket League division two with a comfortable eight-wicket win at home to Willey.

Alex Bromley took 4-22 as Willey were sent back for just 80, while there were three wickets apiece for Patrick Fletcher and Edward Bennett.

They then knocked off the runs with ease, Tim Davies finishing 22 not out and Andrew Barker making 21.

Earlier in the week, Montgomery were involved in a winning draw against Hodnet, Peplow & Tibberton to maintain their challenge.

Put in to bat, they posted 196-6 in 40 overs, with Ieuan Griffiths top scoring on 78 and Rob Bennett making 50. They then restricted their visitors to

120-6, with Edward Bennett taking 2-17 as Monty picked up 16 points to cement second spot.

Leaders ELLESMERE, who are 18 points clear of second placed Montgomery, are in sight of the title after their eight-wicket success over Lilleshall.

A tight spell of 2-17 off 11 overs from George Duncan limited Lilleshall to 142-4 from their 46 overs, skipper Thomas Mackerel making 63 at the top of the order.

Ellesmere made light work of the run chase to reach their target with 19 overs to spare, Jean-Pierre Erasmus setting them on the way with 44 before Fraser Duncan (37no) and Tom Davies (31no) finished the job.

ELLESMERE's second string succumbed by five

wickets away to Cae Glas in the 2nd XI League division three.

A spell of six wickets for four runs from Andy Hughes did the damage as the Merisiders were bowled out for 101, before 31 from Shaun Southern steered the Glas to their target in reply.

WELSHPOOL II lost ground on the leading pack in the 2nd XI League division three after slipping to a six-wicket loss to their Condover counterparts.

Openers David Whitehouse (57) and Mat Sherwood (41) set a solid platform, but Pool were restricted to 140-5 from their 40 overs.

That target was reached inside 26 overs, with Sam Brooks hitting 37, while there were two wickets for Adam Gannon who also made 25 earlier in the day.

Centurion Fynn has Bromsgrove in spin

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

WARRICK FYNN cracked a fifth century of the season as Oswestry continued their excellent campaign in the Birmingham League division one with a comprehensive eight-wicket win over Bromsgrove.

After taking four wickets to help bowl out the visitors for 169, the county all-rounder then struck a sublime century as the Morda Road men cantered to victory in their penultimate home fixture.

After winning the toss, Bromsgrove, who have so often been Oswestry's bogey team, were always under the pump as the home spin attack, skilfully led by the wily Fynn, restricted their run rate.

Fynn was to strike first, clean bowling opener Jayden Levitt for 40 with the score on 67. He then removed in quick succession Ryan Pedley and Aaron Thomason, who were both trapped lbw.

Partnered by the ever improving Sam Davies – fully justifying his call-up to the first team – Fynn turned the screw as Bromsgrove subsided to 113-5.

After Charlie Morris had opener Ashley Newfield caught and bowled for a patient 49, there was little resistance from the visitors who were finally dismissed in the 45th over.

No other batsman reached double figures, with extras (29) being the third highest scorer.

Fynn was the pick of the Oswestry bowlers, pocketing four wickets at a cost of just 10 runs off his allotted 10 overs.

Davies returned figures of 1-25, also off 10 miserly overs, with an impressive display of off-spin. Morris collected 3-57 with Joe Carrasco taking the other wicket to fall.

Oswestry made a positive response and, despite losing Carrasco for 10 with the score on 39, Fynn continued to dissect the opposition field with his trademark driving, pulling and cutting.

Joined by skipper Robbie Clarke, he put on 95 for the second wicket, before Clarke was caught at backward point for an attractive 28.

Younger brother Joe, enjoying a day off after his county match with Worcestershire finished a day early after Lancashire's successful run chase at Southport, then came to the crease, and timed the ball effortlessly in his short stay as the Oswestry pair sprinted home with 18 overs to spare.

Fynn, who had survived an early chance behind, completed a fine century. His undefeated 103 came off 104 balls and included 17 fours and one six, while Clarke finished undefeated on 28.

Oswestry's victory in many ways mirrored Bridgnorth's emphatic Bank Holiday win, with the Morda Road side on this occasion in control from start to finish before chasing down an under-par total with ease. This latest win lifts Oswestry into fourth position.

A young Oswestry second team gave a good account of themselves before losing by just three wickets to Milford Hall in the reserve division.

Kiernan Oakley (27) Ben Wilson (21) and Ollie Roberts (21) all made useful contributions.

Paul Startin (3-30) was the main wicket taker for the home side as Wilson, standing in for injured skipper Pete Holloway, saw his team bowled out in the 39th over for 169.

An undefeated 61 from Rasun Gamage after Matt Kirby and Josh Russell had earlier made 24 and 28 respectively, saw the Staffordshire side over the line.

Leg spinner Floyd Owen again bowled well, picking up 3-38, and there were also two wickets for his school captain Mattie Davies.

Slow start proves costly for Town



Sean Jones and Lewis Jarmin on the attack for FC Oswestry at Cheadle Heath Nomads

FC Oswestry Town slipped to a 3-0 defeat away to Cheadle Heath Nomads in the North West Counties League Division One South.

The north Shropshire outfit fell two goals down inside 10 minutes and struggled to recover from there despite being at full strength and fielding five new signings.

Richard Tindall and Stephen Kirby were the men to put Cheadle ahead.

Dave Howarth then had a shot cleared off the line for Oswestry after he rounded the keeper.

Liam Parry also fired agonisingly wide before Kirby wrapped up the win for his team midway through the second half.

Oswestry need time to gel, but boss Matt Burton will still be hoping for a big improvement in the coming weeks.

A late fightback proved to no

avail as St Martins made an early FA Vase exit with a 3-2 defeat at Wellington in the first qualifying round.

Trailing by three goals against their Herefordshire hosts, the Saints rallied late on with replies from Dave Easthope and Karl Bailey, but it was too little too late on a below-par afternoon.

The visitors went behind to Sam Pearson's opener on 13 minutes, while it needed some fine saves from George Austin to keep his side in the tie at the break.

Disaster struck three minutes into the second period when Austin played a short ball to Jamie Hands who then lofted his back pass into his own net from 25 yards.

Jordan Davies went close to reducing the deficit, but a third goal on the counter-attack through Paul Jones left the visitors with

a mountain to climb. But they almost salvaged the tie, with Easthope smashing in a volley on 80 minutes and Bailey firing a second from a rebound after a strong run by Davies two minutes later.

"We got some pride back at the end, but it was too little too late and 3-2 flattered us," said manager Dan Stevens.

"If we had played to our potential, it was a game we could have won, but we were not at the races.

"It was one of our worst performances, but we've now got a chance to put things right."

Shawn Melusi and Dave Hartshorn were set to return when St Martins welcomed Eccleshall to Park Hall in the North West Counties League division one south on Tuesday night.

After that, the Saints are away to Nelson in the first round of the Division One Cup on Saturday.

Consecutive victories in time trials for Morgan

NICK MORGAN warmed to the challenge in the final round of this year's Oswestry Paragon Time trial series by making it back-to-back wins in distinctly autumnal conditions.

Although the heavy rain of earlier in the evening cleared, it was a chilly, breezy evening for the 30 riders who took part.

And for the second week running it was Morgan, of Hitchen Nomads CC, who rode home first.

Despite being delayed by a tractor, he crossed the line in 22 minutes 18 seconds – nearly a minute ahead of his nearest rival.

In second place was Gregg Kinsell, of Mid Shropshire Wheelers, who clocked 23.12 after an absence from local time trials in recent years.

Three junior riders fought it out for third place with Oswestry's Kieran Morris (23.14) just coming out ahead of the Mid Shropshire Wheelers pairing of Ben Pierce (23.16) and James Satoor (23.24).

This year, Oswestry Paragon have had a competition for the fastest club rider on a standard road bike with no aerodynamic aids.

The inaugural winner of this trophy was Jack Morris with a time of 23.48 set in round 12, and for the final week Morris borrowed Jack Young's time trial bike and came home in 23.37.

Along with the road bike prize, Morris also took second place in the points and handicap series.

The absent Glyn Jones took the overall win in the points series and the third placed Paragon rider on the night Lee Williams (24.03) also took third place overall.

James Eccleston of Salisbury R&MCC was eighth in 24.33.

A series of consistently good rides gave Steve Roberts the silverware in the handicap series and his time of 24.47 was good enough for ninth place on the night.

In 10th place, and the only other rider to get under the 25-minute mark, was Tim Jones of Mid Shropshire Wheelers (24.55), while Darrell Walsh (25.05) pipped Neil Coles by a second to take 11th spot.

Junior rider Jack Young rounded off a successful season by competing on his road bike to finish in 25.37.

Two women took part with Sarah Breeze (30.13) getting the better of her mum, Liz (30.43).

Returns from the golf clubs

HENLE PARK

Senior Captain's Trophy: Division One: Alun Edwards net 69, Russell Owens net 69 (countback), Tony Hart net 72. Division Two: Peter Greenwood net 70, John Bostock net 73 (countback), Graham Wood net 73.

Dave Saltor Trophy: Gary Owen 22pts, Mike Jones 21pts (countback), Ryan Morris 21pts.

LLANYMYNECH

August Medal & Borderland Rotary: Division One: Mike Ferguson 74-8-66, Phil Ellis 78-11-67, Andrew Giffins 77-9-68, Division Two: Chris Caldwell 78-14-64, Adrian Jones 87-18-69, Ken Evans 86-16-70, Division Three: Paul Rowney 90-23-67, GS Edwards 94-25-69, Andrew Paddison 98-25-73.

MILE END

Men's Greensomes: D Birch & J Northwood 70-9-6-60.4, Beckett & T Jones 80-19-4-60.6, P O'Connor & J Dean 78-16-4-61.6.

Seniors August Stableford: Division One: Bob Grovestock-Thompson 41pts, Gordon Manson 39pts, Ian Horler 38pts, Division Two: Keith Humphreys 43pts, Paul Walton 43pts, Ben Hunter 43pts.

Huw & Mary Edwards Trophy: Levin Bennett & Janet Bennett 88-20-8-67.2, Alan Stansbie & Carol Slater 84-16-4-67.6, Bob Grovestock-Thompson & Di Bradbury 82-13-6-68.4.

Seniors August Medal Division One: Stuart Rogers, Ted McAllister 47pts, John Hughes, Stuart Ball 46pts, John Burnredd, Roger Hall 46pts. Men's August Medal Division One: Roy Adkins 81-12-68, Derek Brier 75-8-68, Gordon Jamieson 75-7-68, Division Two: Ben Moody 81-14-67, Mick Pierce 83-14-69, Lev Bennett 90-18-72, Division Three: Robbie Groot 88-21-67, Stuart Rogers 83-23-70, Noel Rogers 95-26-73.

Ladies' August Medal Division One: Sue Robson 88-15-73, Angela Eke 90-17-73, Di Bradbury 88-12-76, Division Two: Joanne Williams 97-30-67, Morgan Wood 101-31-70, Sue O'Connor 105-30-75.

OSWESTRY

Ladies' EWGA Medal: First Division: Jane Jones 87-16-71, Margaret Evans 94-20-74, Susan Graham Wood 91-15-76, Second Division: Angela Gwilt 98-20-70, Grace Ansell 102-29-74, Margaret Green 96-22-74, Third Division: Judy Foster 103-34-69, Maureen Crane 103-33-70, Jean Williams 109-35-74.



Townend is edged out at Burghley

OLIVER TOWNEND was magnanimous in defeat as he missed out on defending his Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials crown by a whisker.

Riding last year's winning mount Ballaghmor Class, Shropshire's Townend was second overnight, and moved into the lead with his run in the show jumping ring with just New Zealand's Tim Price left to compete.

However, Price kept his cool to deliver a nerveless display atop Ringwood Sky Boy for his first Burghley title.

Townend, based at Duddleston Heath near Ellesmere, was full of praise for the victor as well as his own horse and the team that worked so hard to get him in a position to mount a terrific title defence.

"The horse jumped as well as he's ever jumped and he feels on fantastic form," said Townend, 35. "It sounds a bit strange but he's twice the horse he was at Burghley last year."

"Obviously he just got beaten, but at the same time full credit to Tim and his team, we were beaten by a more mile-aged horse and a top-class jockey. It was their day."

"Consistency is the key and we've been saying for years, 'these are the good horses, these are the horses that are really special'."

"Everyone kept saying, 'Yeah, yeah you said that three years ago', but they take so long to produce and so long to get here and now they are here."

"Touch wood, they are sound and able to go on again. They are still very young to be at this level and the form that they've got between them is unreal."

"I don't want to be greedy and he had a bit of a knock to his leg he picked up on the cross-country and I didn't want him to be under any sort of pressure that he didn't need to be. I was reliant and the other two that are good jumpers and was just happy to go forward with those and look after him for another day."

The multi-award-winning Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials from August 30 – September 2 has been established as a major international equestrian and social event in the Autumn Sporting Calendar for over 50 years. Visit burghley-horse.co.uk for more information.

Boss Burton looks for his side to gel

MANAGER Matt Burton knows his FC Oswestry Town side need to quickly shape up as they prepare for the visit of Maine Road on Saturday (3pm).

It's been a mixed start for Town who currently lie 11th in the Hallmark North West Counties League division one south after last weekend's 3-0 loss at Cheadle Heath Nomads.

With eight points from seven games, they now have a full squad available after a number of players have finally received international clearance.

And Burton knows his new-look side need to quickly gel if they are to make their mark this season.

"I told the lads not to be downhearted, there were positives from the game, but they need to learn quickly," he said.

Saints seeking to avoid a cup shock

THE New Saints hope to avoid becoming an early casualty when they tackle unfancied Queens Park in the second round of the IRN-BRU Cup at Park Hall on Saturday evening (7.35).

Having been beaten semi-finalists in their previous two appearances in the competition, the Saints will want to go even better as they bid to lift the trophy for the first time.

And they will be firm favourites in their opening sortie against their Scottish League Two visitors who make the 530-mile round trip from Glasgow.

The Saints made light work of another League

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

Two club, Elgin City, with a 4-0 victory at Park Hall last term, and manager Scott Ruscoe will be hoping for more of the same this time around.

"We've been beaten semi-finalists for the last two years and would like to go one further and get to the final this time," he said.

"This is a competition we want to win, but first we have to get through the early rounds. We won't be treating them lightly."

Gus McPherson's Queens Park side are cur-

rently lying fifth in the second division with eight points from five games after last weekend's goalless stalemate with Cowdenbeath.

They are the only fully amateur club in the Scottish League, and are the oldest association football club in Scotland, having been founded in 1867.

They play their home games at Glasgow's Hampden Park, which is currently the home of the Scottish national team, although the Scottish FA are to decide whether the national games should be switched to Edinburgh's Murrayfield from 2020.

Leonard is demanding a response

BOSS Nathan Leonard sounded a stark warning to his Guilsfield players ahead of Friday night's Huws Gray Alliance derby at home to Llanrhaeadr (7.30).

The manager was left fuming after the 2-0 loss at Ruthin Town – the team's third league defeat of the season – and says there need to be improvements or there are going to be big changes.

"They need to show me they want to play at this level," he said. "If not, I will not hesitate in trying to bring in the right players to the club. If I can't, then I will go, as I will not put up with performances like that."

"The performance against Ruthin was embarrassing as there was a lack of desire. The game was there for the taking had we played to our strengths and stuck to a clear game plan."

Llanrhaeadr have made a creditable start by winning three of their five outings this term and, despite a narrow 2-1 loss at Holywell Town last weekend, can head to Cios Mytton in good spirits.

"We're enjoying life in the league and we're looking forward to another challenge, like all the games are," said chairman Mel Roberts.

"Guilsfield are a seasoned Cymru Alliance side and it's going to be a test, but we can go there with confidence with the way we're playing."

He added: "We were disappointed not to get anything against Holywell as we had more chances than them, but paid for a crazy five minutes at the beginning of the second half."

"But credit to the lads, they put in a big shift, kept going to the final whistle, and showed great character. We were unlucky not to get a draw in the end."

After their defeat to Ruthin, Guilsfield find themselves three places below their visitors in 11th position.

■ Guilsfield Reserves have been drawn away to Aberporth in the first round of the J.Emrys Morgan Cup on Saturday, September 29.

Oswestry looking to boost interest

OSWESTRY rugby club is looking to attract more interest in the town from prospective players and supporters.

New players at all levels are wanted – at senior men, youth, juniors and ladies – and anyone who is interested in joining a friendly club, even if they have not played before, are welcome to join up.

Training times are Monday evenings - ladies and girls; Tuesdays - senior men (7-9); Thursdays - senior men (7-9); Juniors and mini rugby is on Sundays from 10am.

Meanwhile, Oswestry's campaign in the Lincs and Cheshire Two got off to a disappointing start with a 52-0 loss at home to Wigan club Aspall on Saturday. The Granville Park men will be looking for improved fortunes on Saturday when they visit Congleton.

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FYNN CLOSE TO A RARE DOUBLE

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

THE prolific Warrick Fynn has a chance to close in on a remarkable "double" when Oswestry host Tamworth in their penultimate Birmingham League division one fixture on Saturday.

The all-rounder is on the brink of achieving the rare feat after hitting his fifth century of the season and also taking four wickets as the Morda Road men eased to an eight-wicket win over Bromsgrove last weekend.

He is now tantalisingly close to the landmark with two games to go – needing 11 more runs to complete 1,000 runs for the season, and another six wickets for his 50.

"He had a superb season last year which we thought would be a hard act to follow, but he keeps getting better and better," said chairman Chris Wiseman.

"A double of 1,000 runs and 50 wickets has never been achieved by an Oswestry player in the Birmingham League, and I doubt it has ever been done in the Shropshire League."

Fynn's latest efforts helped Oswestry chase down 169 for victory to take them up to fourth in the table and they will look to keep up the good work against Tamworth on Saturday.

After picking up 4-10 with his left-arm spin, he cracked an undefeated 103 off 104 balls which included 17 fours and one six.

Despite last weekend's win, Oswestry have too much to do in their remaining two games if they are to catch Shifnal or Bridgnorth and make a late push for promotion.

"The higher you can finish, the better it looks, so we want to end the season well," added Wiseman.

"It's good to have three teams from Shropshire in the top four."

Williams wins at Mile End



Joanne Williams is presented with her trophy for winning the President's Day competition

JOANNE WILLIAMS became only the second female golfer to land the top honour in Mile End Golf Club's President's Day competition.

With a fantastic score of 44 stableford points, Williams saw off all the close challengers to

take the trophy, now in its 21st year.

With the competition open to all sections of the club – and the promise of hot dogs and refreshments at the 'halfway house' – there was a great turnout for the event.

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- A wide range of real ales, cider and traditional bars and catering throughout the site each with picnic areas

THREE VIBRANT MUSIC STAGES!

HANDPICKED ARTISTS FOR EACH OF OUR 3 THEMED MUSIC STAGES, FOLK ROOTS, JAZZ & BLUES, CELTIC & COUNTRY.

- Full line up of talented artists across genres
- Toe-tapping performances to entertain the whole family - you can get up and have a boogie
- Local performers and those who have travelled far to entertain you!



LOTS OF CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WEEKEND!

- Live parrot display – roam around the Potty Parrots marquee with over 15 birds flying free in the marquee
- Falconry Classrooms – try out handling some of the most beautiful birds in the world!
- Live animal display – Whether it be meerkats or snakes, try handling some of the most exotic creatures known to man!
- Weston Parks Adventure Playground & Miniature Railway – from swings & slides, climbing wall and trampolines, log swings and zip wires and large sandpit with diggers, plus at 40m one of the longest double zip wires in the country!
- Survival Camp – get involved with paper crafts, knot tying, net making, navigation, morse code and so much more at the Survival Camp!

Other childrens activities that do attract a small charge include:

- Airsoft Range
- Splat the Rat competition (donation)
- Traditional Fun Fair
- Bungee Trampolines
- Zorb Balls
- Bouncy Castles & Slides
- Junior Crossbows & Catapults
- Panning for Gold
- Ferret Racing (donation)

AND BEST OF ALL... THE ABOVE IS AT NO EXTRA CHARGE!!!



DID YOU KNOW?

Falcon vision is eight times better than humans, it allows birds to spot prey from 2 miles away so they are able to swoop down and catch it precisely.

A MYRIAD OF RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES WITH OVER 700 EXHIBITORS IN ATTENDANCE

WHETHER IT IS COUNTRY STYLE CLOTHING, LOCAL FOOD & DRINK, SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOME OR GARDEN, OR A NEW CAR, WE HAVE IT ALL AT THE MIDLAND GAME FAIR!

- Country Craft marquee with over 40 exhibitors in attendance
- A wide range of collectibles and unusual items in the Antiques marquee
- Numerous stands selling a wide variety of gifts you wouldn't find on the high street within the Gifts Pavilion
- A huge range of outside exhibitions including car manufacturers, high end ladies clothing and accessories, shooting attire and so much more!

ARE YOU LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED WITH FIELD SPORTS?

WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHOSEN SPORT, INCLUDING:

- Catch your first fish at the Fishing Village with our qualified experts
- Smash your first clay at the Festival of Shooting
- Knock down your first target at the BASC Airgun ranges
- Compete in your first gundog scurry at the gundog events
- Handle some of the finest birds of prey in the Falconry Festival



TICKET PRICES 2018

PRE BOOK TICKET PRICES

- Adult (16 years+) £17.00
- Children (15 and Under) FREE (when accompanied by a full paying adult)
- Adult Weekend Ticket £32.00
- Camping without Electric £70.00
- Camping with Electric £130.00
- Book online or by phone **01889 563232**
- Box Office closes noon Wednesday 12th September
- Save £££'s and beat the queues by pre-booking

ON THE DAY TICKET PRICES

- Adult (16 years +) £20.00
- Children (15 and Under) FREE (when accompanied by a full paying adult)
- Camping without Electric £80.00 (on arrival, subject to availability)
- Camping with Electric £140.00 (on arrival, subject to availability)

TICKET PRICES

- Advance discount tickets available
- We highly recommend to pre book tickets to avoid queues
- Save up to 20% off tickets
- Under 16's go free
- Free parking
- Dogs welcome

Subject to terms and conditions, please see the website for more details.

Only £34 for a family of 5 if you pre-book your tickets! Unbelievable value for money!

Dates and Opening Times

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th September 2018

Opens from 8:30am - 6pm, last entry is at 3:30pm Weston Park, Shropshire, TF11 8LE

Disabled Access

At the Midland Game Fair we offer a dedicated car park for disabled visitors and electric scooters are available to hire. To access the Car Park please follow the directional signs for disabled parking on the approach to Weston Park. This car park will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Electric scooters are available to hire through Salop Mobility Shropshire. To pre-book mobility equipment, please visit www.salop-mobility.co.uk or call **01630 654381**.

DID YOU KNOW?

The land on which Weston stands was first mentioned in the Domesday Book.



Book Discounted Tickets Online: www.midlandgamefair.co.uk



Find us online:



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